

# **Extended Kalman Filter**

## **Robot Localization and Mapping** **16-833**

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Slides courtesy of Ryan Eustice

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# Nonlinear Dynamic Systems

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- Most realistic robotic problems involve nonlinear functions

$$\mathbf{x}_t = g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) + \varepsilon_t$$

$$\mathbf{z}_t = h(\mathbf{x}_t) + \delta_t$$

# Projecting Covariances (Nonlinear Case)

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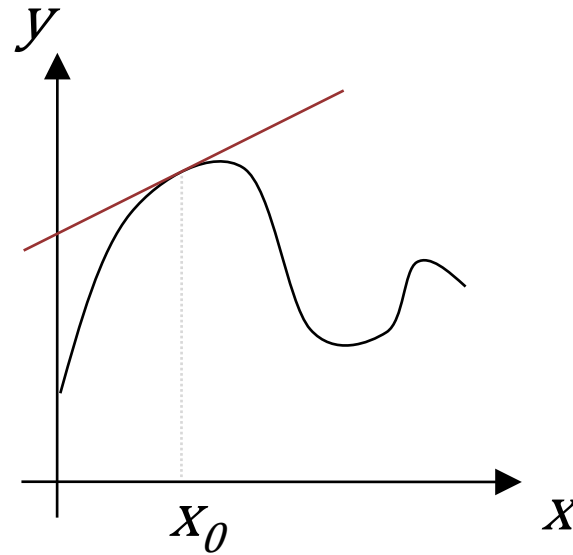
- Again, suppose:  $x \sim \mu_x, \Sigma_x$

$$y = \cancel{Ax} + b \qquad y = f(x)$$

- Approach: approximate  $f(x)$  with Taylor expansion
  - What point should we approximate  $f(x)$  around?

# Projecting Covariances (Nonlinear Case)

- First-order Taylor expansion
  - Let's review 1D case



$$y \approx \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_0} (x - x_0) + f(x_0)$$

# Projecting Covariances (Nonlinear Case)

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- Generalized case:

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \dots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2, \dots) \\ \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \dots \\ \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_{1_0} \\ x_2 - x_{2_0} \\ \dots \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_{1_0}, x_{2_0}) \\ f_2(x_{1_0}, x_{2_0}) \\ \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

“Jacobian”

$$\mathbf{y} \approx J|_{\mathbf{x}_0} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0)$$

# Projecting Covariances (Nonlinear Case)

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$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathbf{y} \approx J|_{\mathbf{x}_0}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0)$$

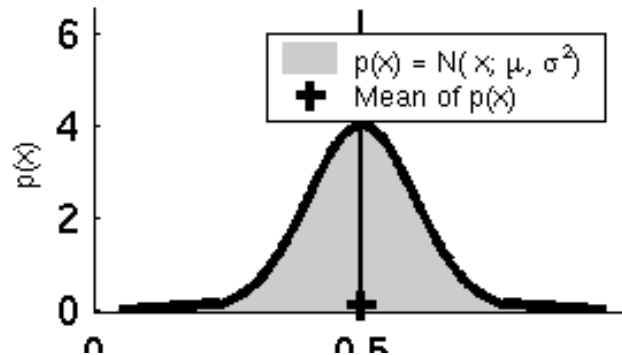
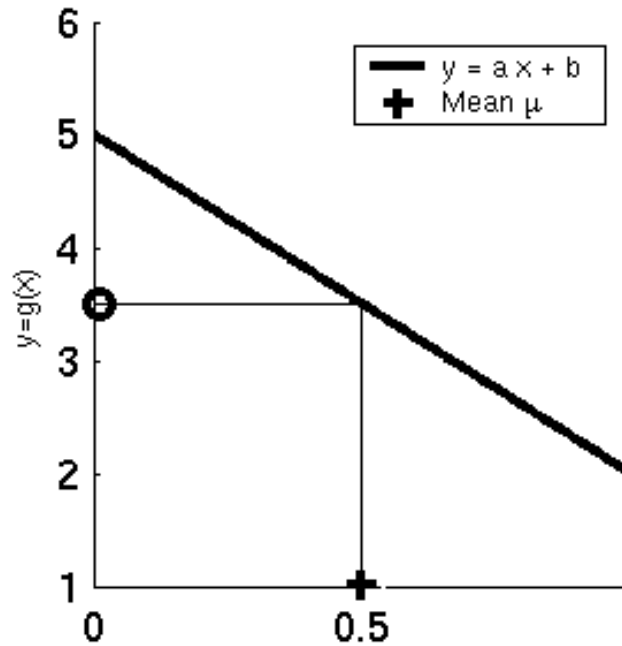
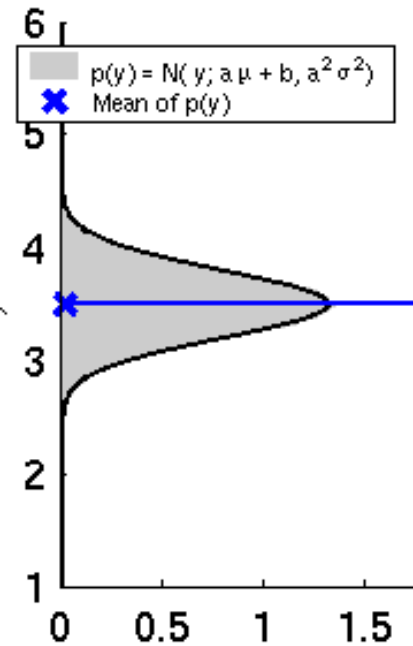
$$\mathbf{y} \approx \underbrace{J|_{\mathbf{x}_0}}_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{x} - \underbrace{J|_{\mathbf{x}_0} \mathbf{x}_0}_{\mathbf{b}} + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= Ax + b \\ \Sigma_y &= A \Sigma_x A^T \end{aligned}$$

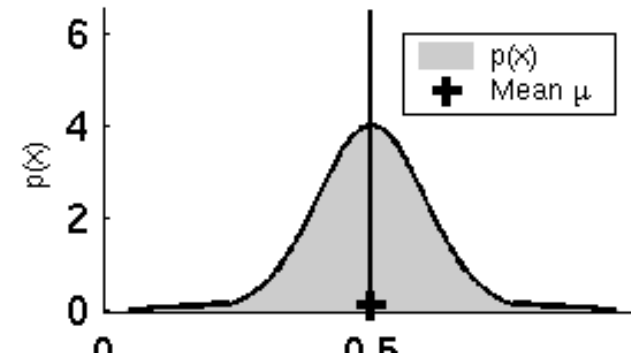
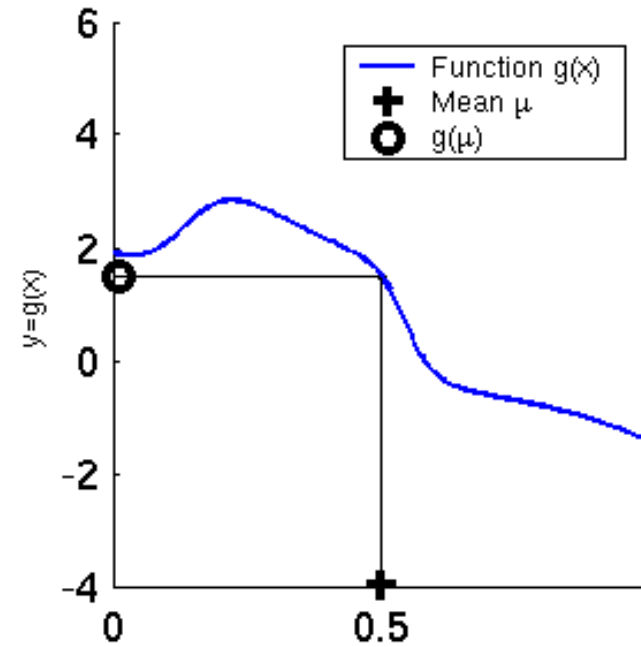
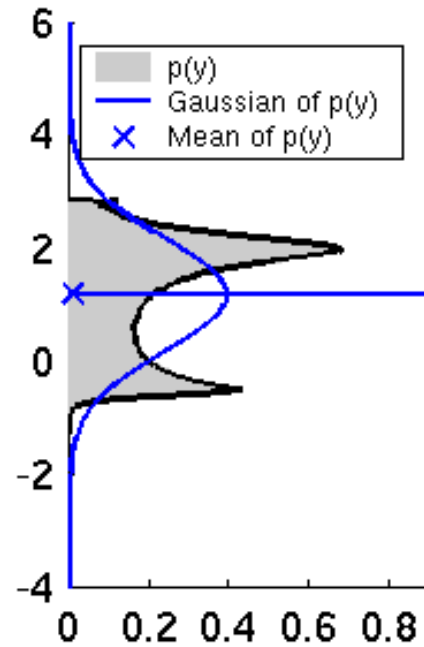
Non-linear case is reduced to linear case via first-order Taylor approximation. Expansion point  $\mathbf{x}_0$  is typically taken as the mean.

What do we lose by dropping higher order terms?

# Linearity Assumption Revisited



# Nonlinear Function



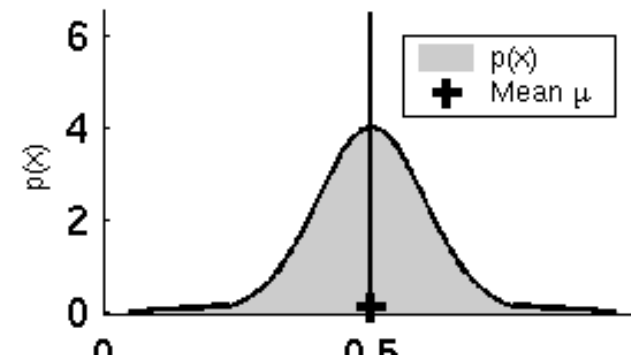
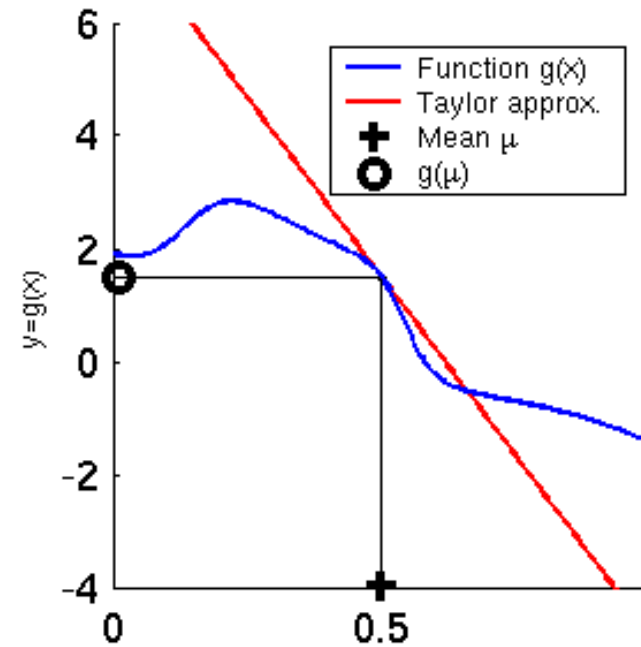
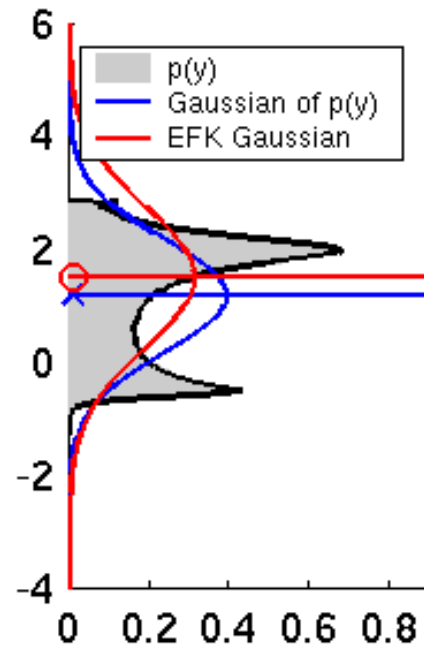


# Nonlinear Gaussian Filters

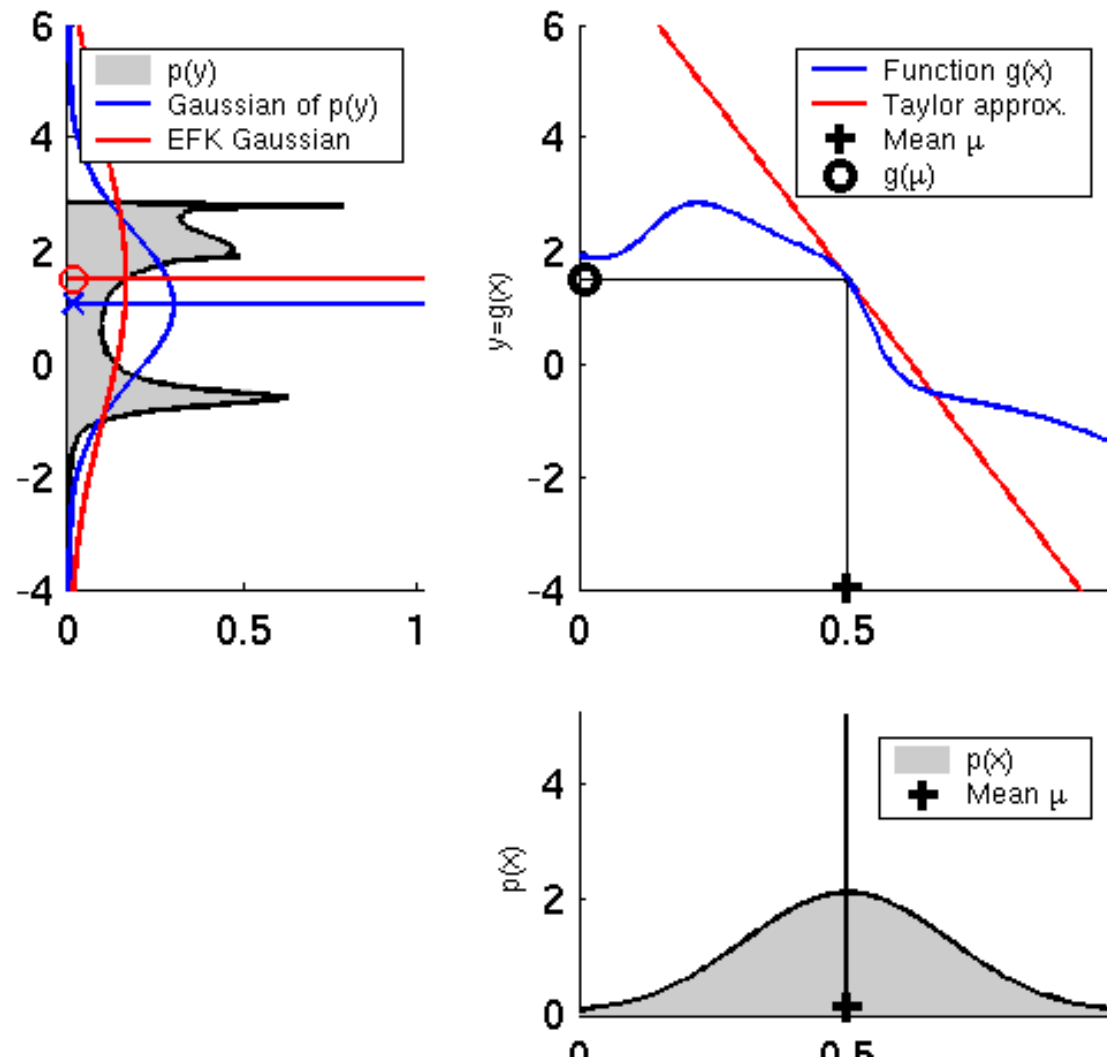
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- Approach 1: Extended Kalman Filter
  - Approximate the model!
  - Linearize our nonlinear plant and/or observation model(s) about the current mean and use the linear KF equations.

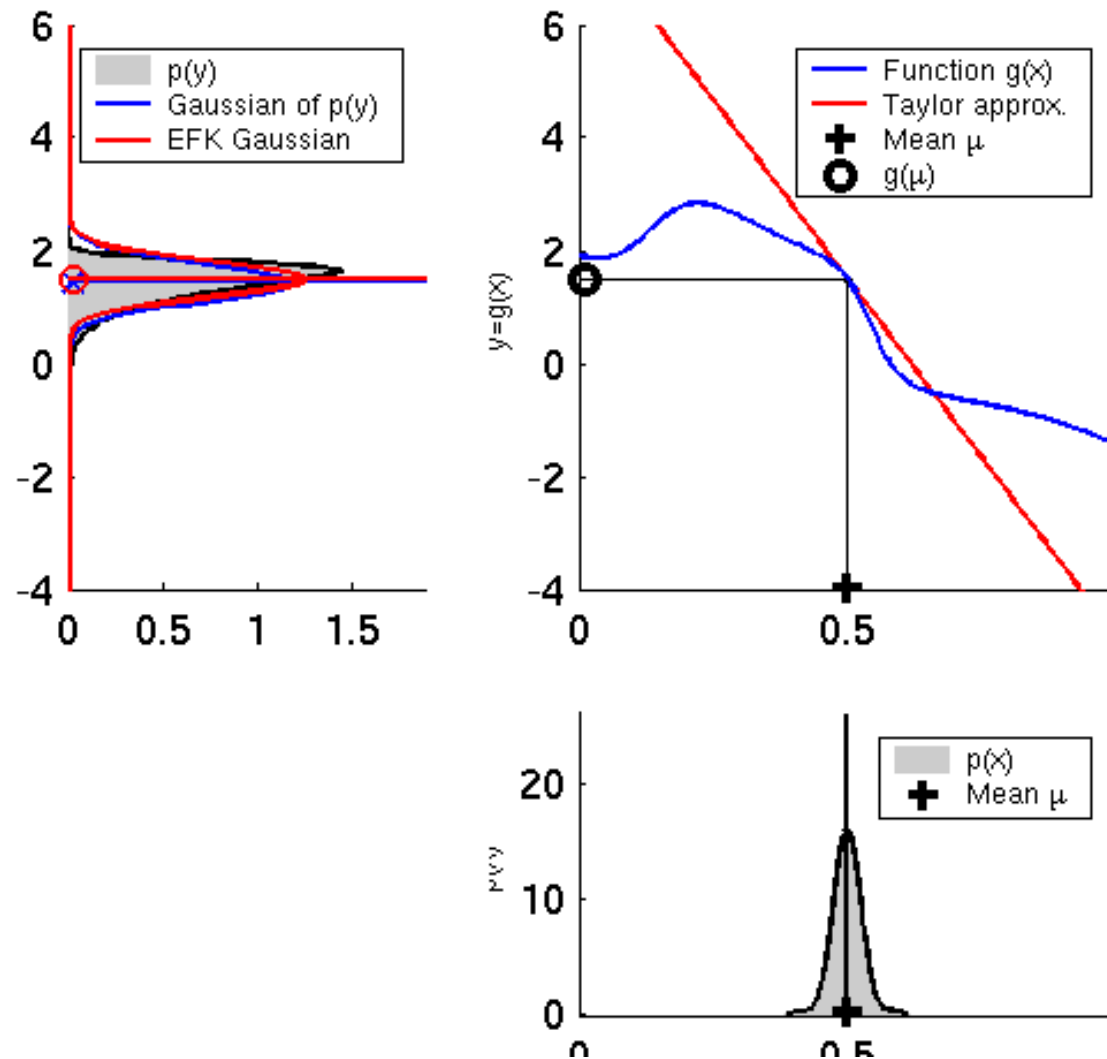
# EKF Linearization via First Order Taylor Series



# EKF Linearization: Large Variance



# EKF Linearization: Narrow Variance



# EKF Linearization: First Order Taylor Series Expansion

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- Prediction:

$$g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) \approx g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mu_{t-1}) + \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mu_{t-1})}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{t-1}} (\mathbf{x}_{t-1} - \mu_{t-1})$$

$$g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) \approx g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mu_{t-1}) + G_t (\mathbf{x}_{t-1} - \mu_{t-1})$$

- Correction:

$$h(\mathbf{x}_t) \approx h(\bar{\mu}_t) + \frac{\partial h(\bar{\mu}_t)}{\partial \mathbf{x}_t} (\mathbf{x}_t - \bar{\mu}_t)$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}_t) \approx h(\bar{\mu}_t) + H_t (\mathbf{x}_t - \bar{\mu}_t)$$

# EKF Algorithm\*

1. **Extended\_Kalman\_filter**(  $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{z}_t$ ):

2. Prediction:

3.  $\bar{\mu}_t = g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mu_{t-1})$

4.  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = G_t \Sigma_{t-1} G_t^T + R_t$

5. Correction:

6.  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$

7.  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t (\mathbf{z}_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$

8.  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$

9. **Return**  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

Linear KF

←  $\bar{\mu}_t = A_t \mu_{t-1} + B_t \mathbf{u}_t$

←  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = A_t \Sigma_{t-1} A_t^T + R_t$

←  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t C_t^T (C_t \bar{\Sigma}_t C_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$

←  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t (\mathbf{z}_t - C_t \bar{\mu}_t)$

←  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t C_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$

$$H_t = \frac{\partial h(\bar{\mu}_t)}{\partial \mathbf{x}_t} \quad G_t = \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mu_{t-1})}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{t-1}}$$

\* The form shown assumes additive process and observation model noise

# EKF Summary

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- **Highly efficient:** Polynomial in measurement dimensionality  $k$  and state dimensionality  $n$ :  
 $O(k^{2.376} + kn^2)$
- **Not optimal!**
- Can **diverge** if nonlinearities are large!
- Can work surprisingly well even when all assumptions are violated!

# KF, EKF and UKF

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- Kalman filter requires linear models
- EKF linearizes via Taylor expansion

**Is there a better way to linearize?**

**Unscented Transform**



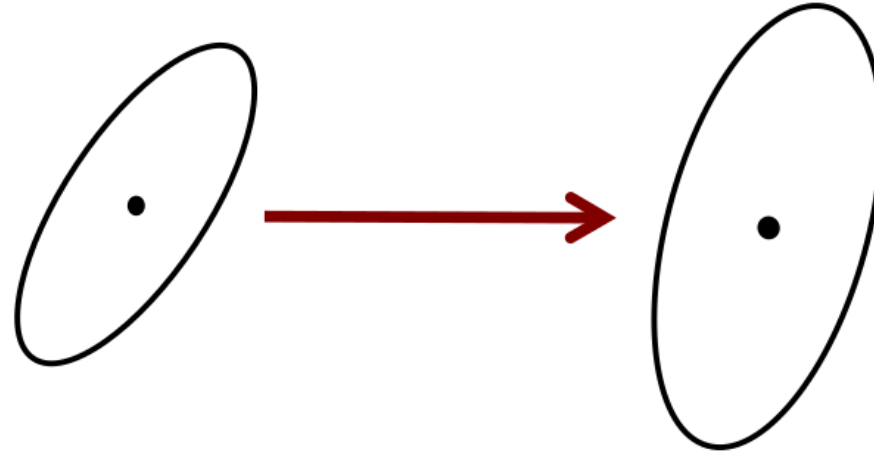
**Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF)**

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss



# Taylor Approximation (EKF)

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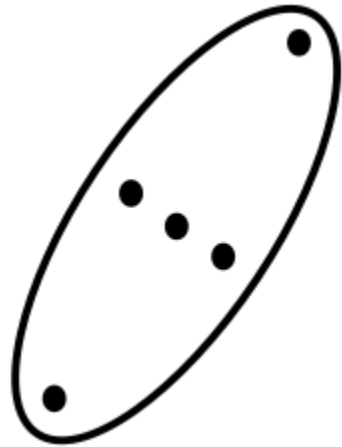


Linearization of the non-linear  
function through Taylor expansion

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Unscented Transform

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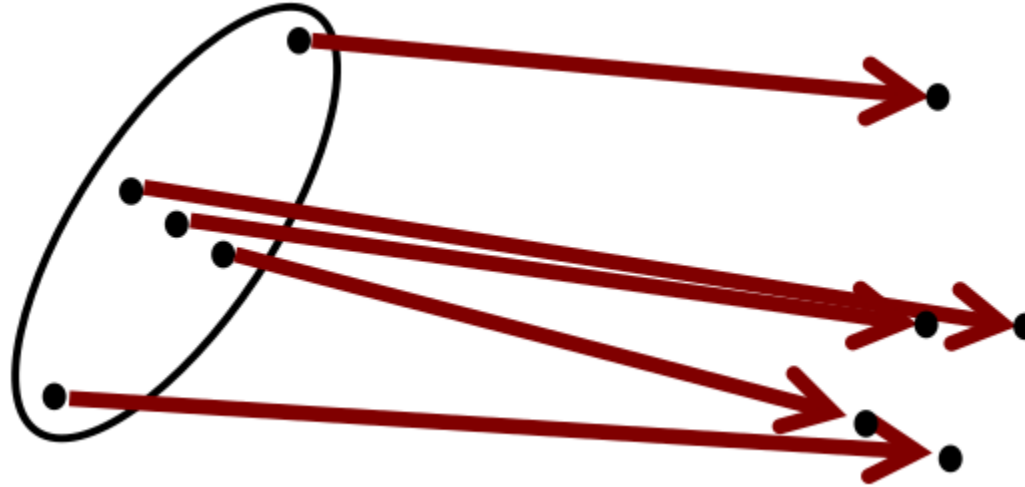


Compute a set of (so-called)  
sigma points

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Unscented Transform

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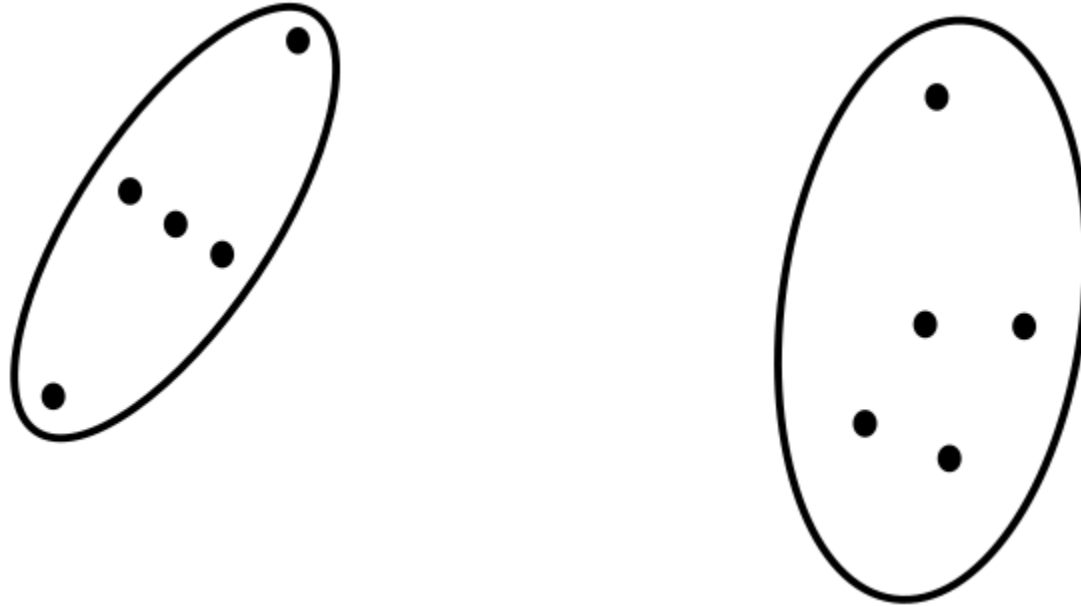


Transform each sigma point  
through the non-linear function

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Unscented Transform

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Compute Gaussian from the transformed  
and weighted sigma points

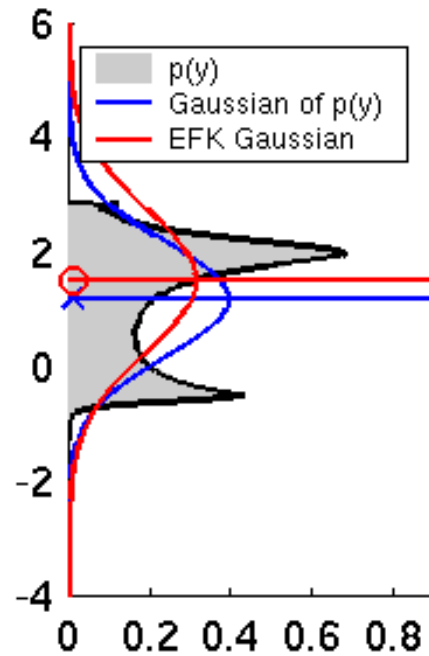
Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Nonlinear Gaussian Filters

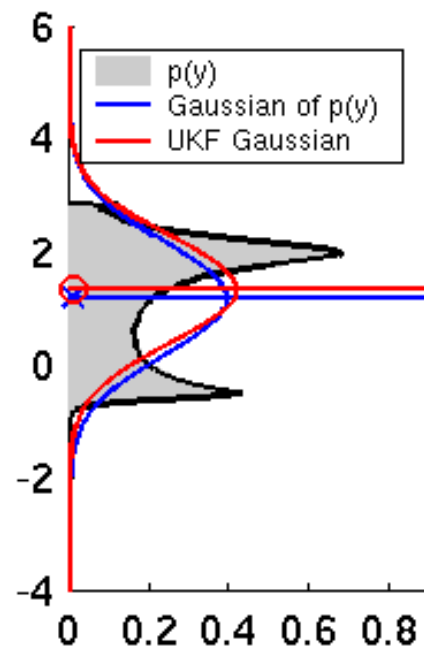
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- Approach 2: Unscented Kalman Filter
  - Approximate the PDF!
  - Use the full nonlinear plant and observation models and recompute 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order statistics.

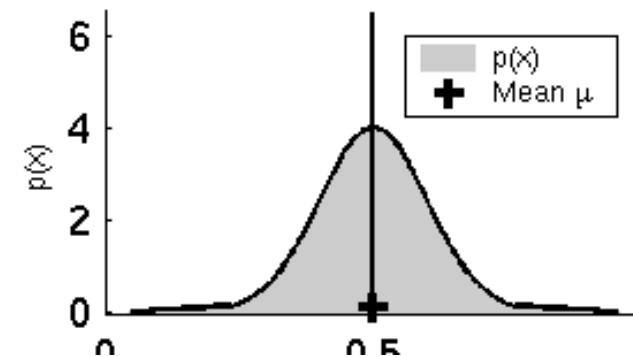
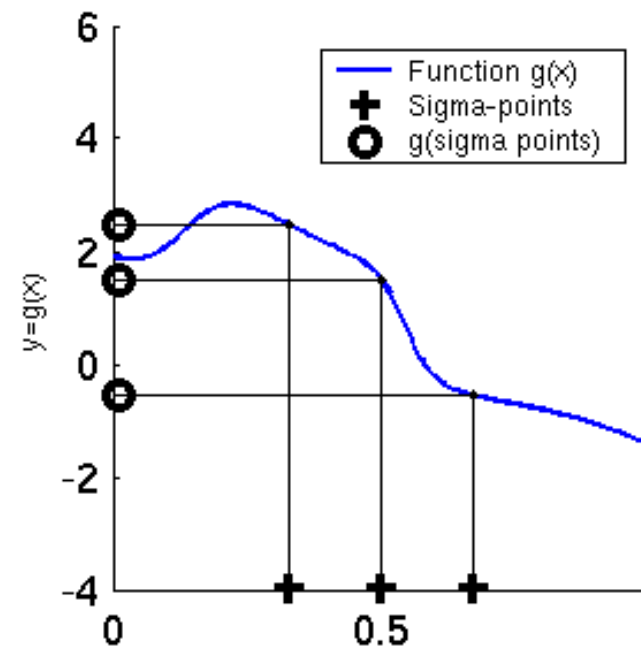
# UKF Linearization via Unscented Transform



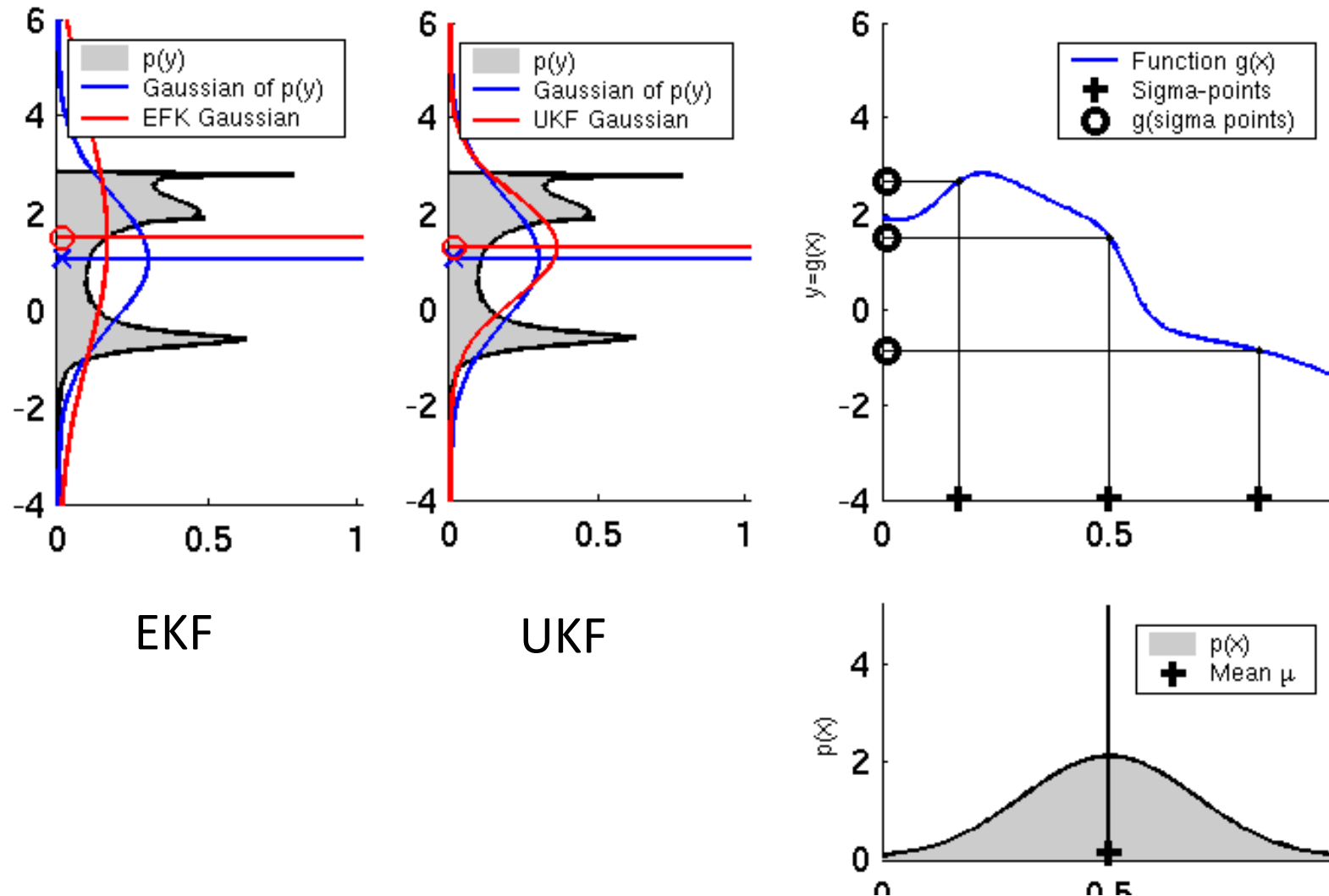
EKF



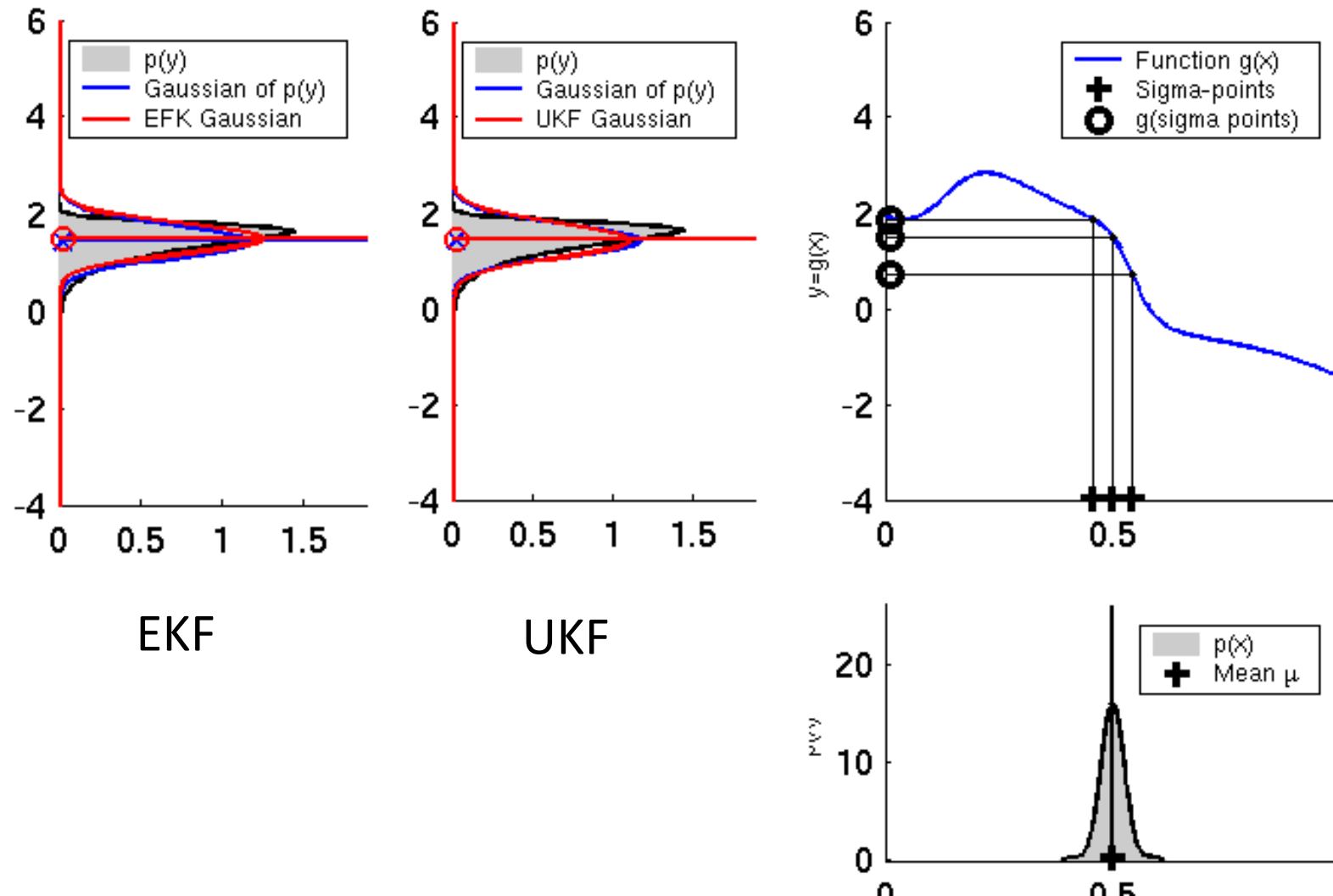
UKF



# UKF Sigma-Point Estimate: Large Variance



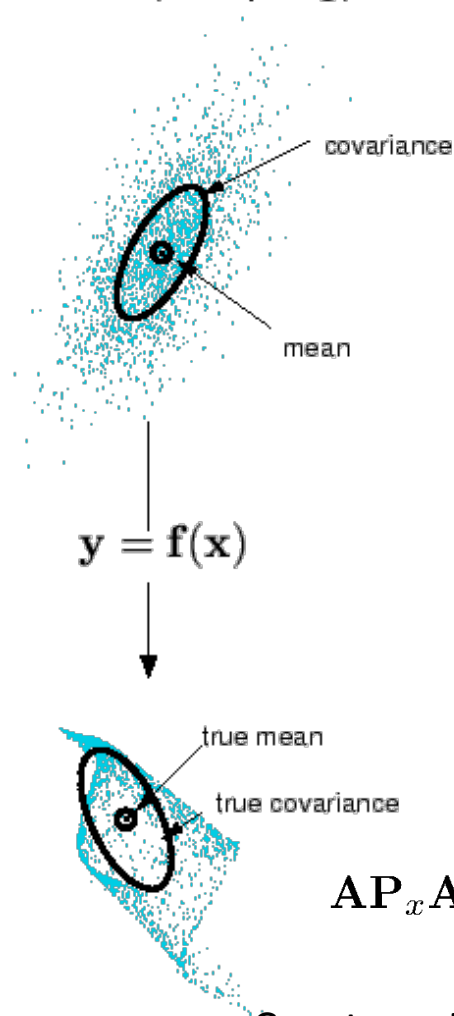
# UKF Sigma-Point Estimate: Narrow Variance



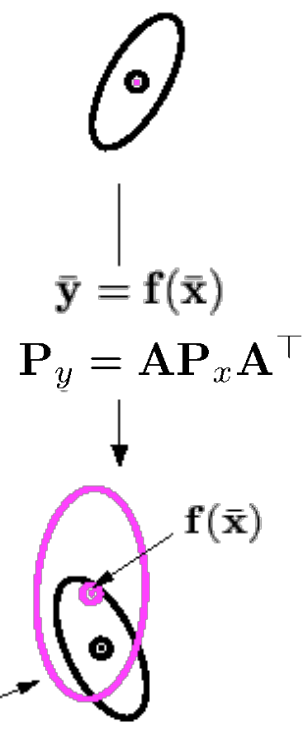


# UKF vs. EKF

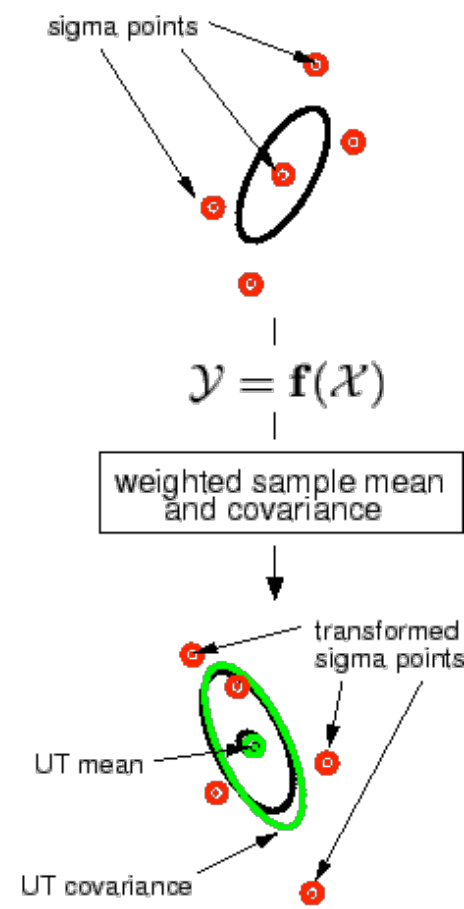
Actual (sampling)



Linearized (EKF)



UT



Courtesy: E.A. Wan and R. van der Merwe

# Unscented Transform Overview

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- Compute a set of sigma points
  - Each sigma point has a weight
  - Transform the point through the non-linear function
  - Compute a Gaussian from weighted points
- 
- Avoids need to linearize **around the mean** as Taylor expansion (and EKF) does

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Sigma Points

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- How to choose the sigma points?
- How to set the weights?

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Sigma Points Properties

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- How to choose the sigma points?
- How to set the weights?
- Select  $\mathbf{x}^{[i]}, w^{[i]}$  so that:

$$\sum_i w^{[i]} = 1$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \sum_i w^{[i]} \mathbf{x}^{[i]}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \sum_i w^{[i]} (\mathbf{x}^{[i]} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x}^{[i]} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top$$

- There is no unique solution for  $\mathbf{x}^{[i]}, w^{[i]}$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Sigma Points

---

- Choosing the sigma points

$$\mathbf{x}^{[0]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} \quad \text{First sigma point is the mean}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \right)_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Sigma Points

- Choosing the sigma points

$$\mathbf{x}^{[0]} = \boldsymbol{\mu}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \right)_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} - \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \right)_{i-n} \quad \text{for } i = n + 1, \dots, 2n$$

matrix  
square root

column vector

dimensionality    scaling parameter

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Real Symmetric Matrix Square Root

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- Defined as  $S$  with  $\Sigma = SS^\top$
- Computed via diagonalization

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma &= VDV^{-1} \\ &= V \begin{pmatrix} d_{11} & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & d_{nn} \end{pmatrix} V^{-1} \\ &= V \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{d_{11}} & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \sqrt{d_{nn}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{d_{11}} & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \sqrt{d_{nn}} \end{pmatrix} V^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Real Symmetric Matrix Square Root

---

- Thus, we can define

$$S = V \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{d_{11}} & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \sqrt{d_{nn}} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{P}_y = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{P}_x\mathbf{A}^\top} V^{-1}$$

- so that

$$SS = (VD^{1/2}V^{-1})(VD^{1/2}V^{-1}) = VDV^{-1} = \Sigma$$

- $S$  and  $\Sigma$  have the same Eigenvectors

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss



# Cholesky Matrix Square Root

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- Alternative definition of the matrix square root

$$L \text{ with } \Sigma = LL^\top$$

- Result of the Cholesky decomposition
  - Numerically stable solution
  - Often used in UKF implementations
- 
- Actually, any such square root factorization is ok, e.g., could use factorization

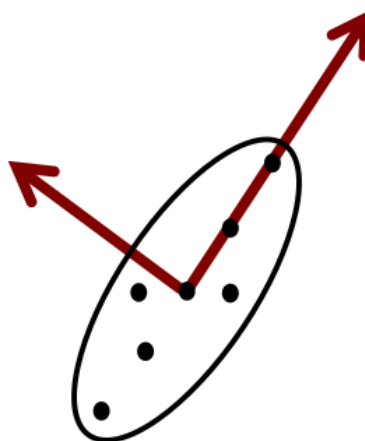
$$\Sigma = AA^\top \quad \text{where } A = VD^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

# Sigma Points and Eigenvectors

- Sigma points **can** but **do not have to** lie on the main axes of  $\Sigma$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \Sigma} \right)_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} - \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \Sigma} \right)_{i-n} \quad \text{for } i = n + 1, \dots, 2n$$



Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Sigma Points Example

Sigma =

1.1335	1.9544
1.9544	5.5336

SigmaL =

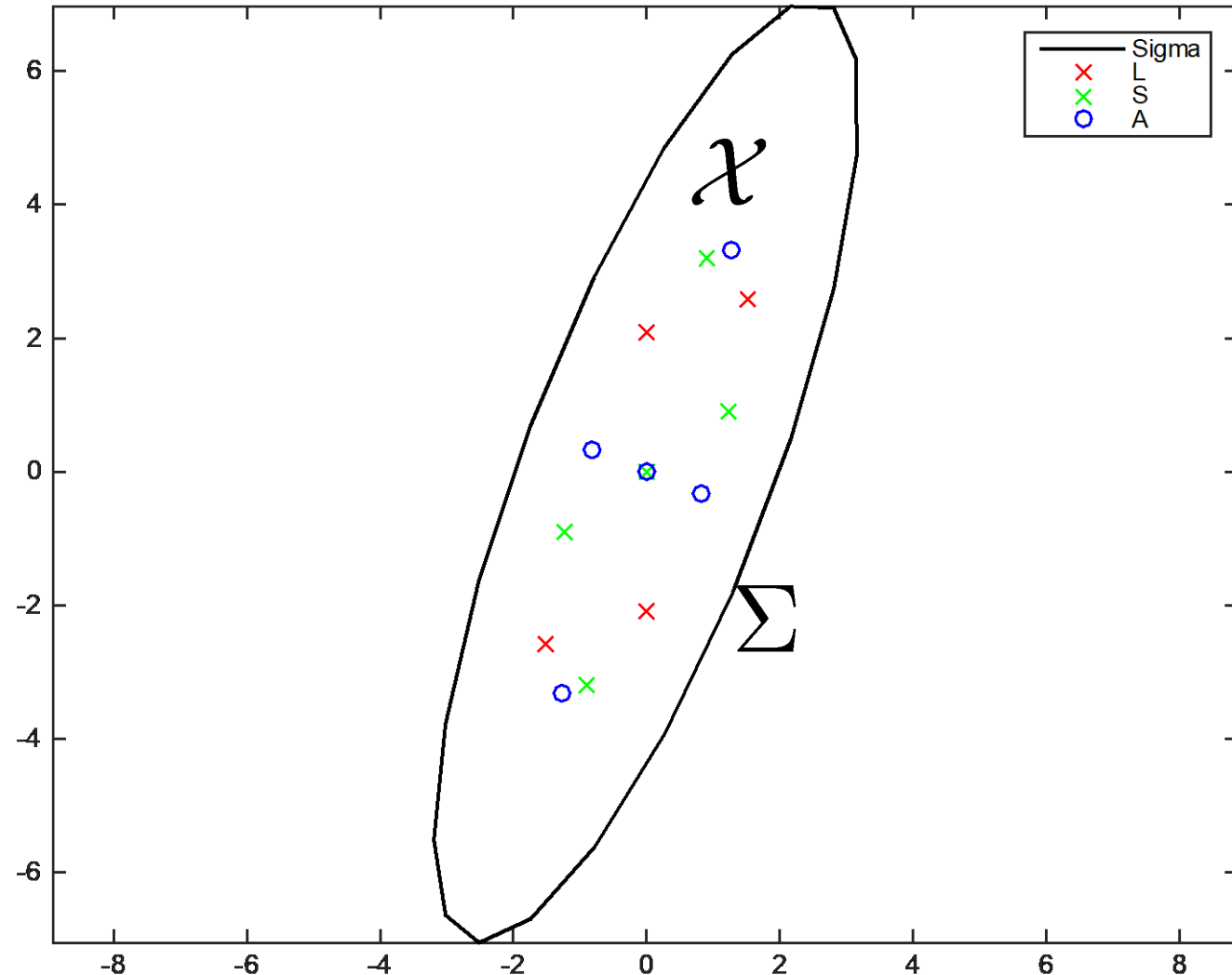
1.1335	1.9544
1.9544	5.5336

SigmaS =

1.1335	1.9544
1.9544	5.5336

SigmaA =

1.1335	1.9544
1.9544	5.5336



# Sigma Point Weights

- Weight sigma points

for computing  
the mean

parameters

$$\begin{aligned} w_m^{[0]} &= \frac{\lambda}{n + \lambda} \\ w_c^{[0]} &= w_m^{[0]} + (1 - \alpha^2 + \beta) \\ w_m^{[i]} &= w_c^{[i]} = \frac{1}{2(n + \lambda)} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, 2n \end{aligned}$$

for computing the covariance

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Recover the Gaussian

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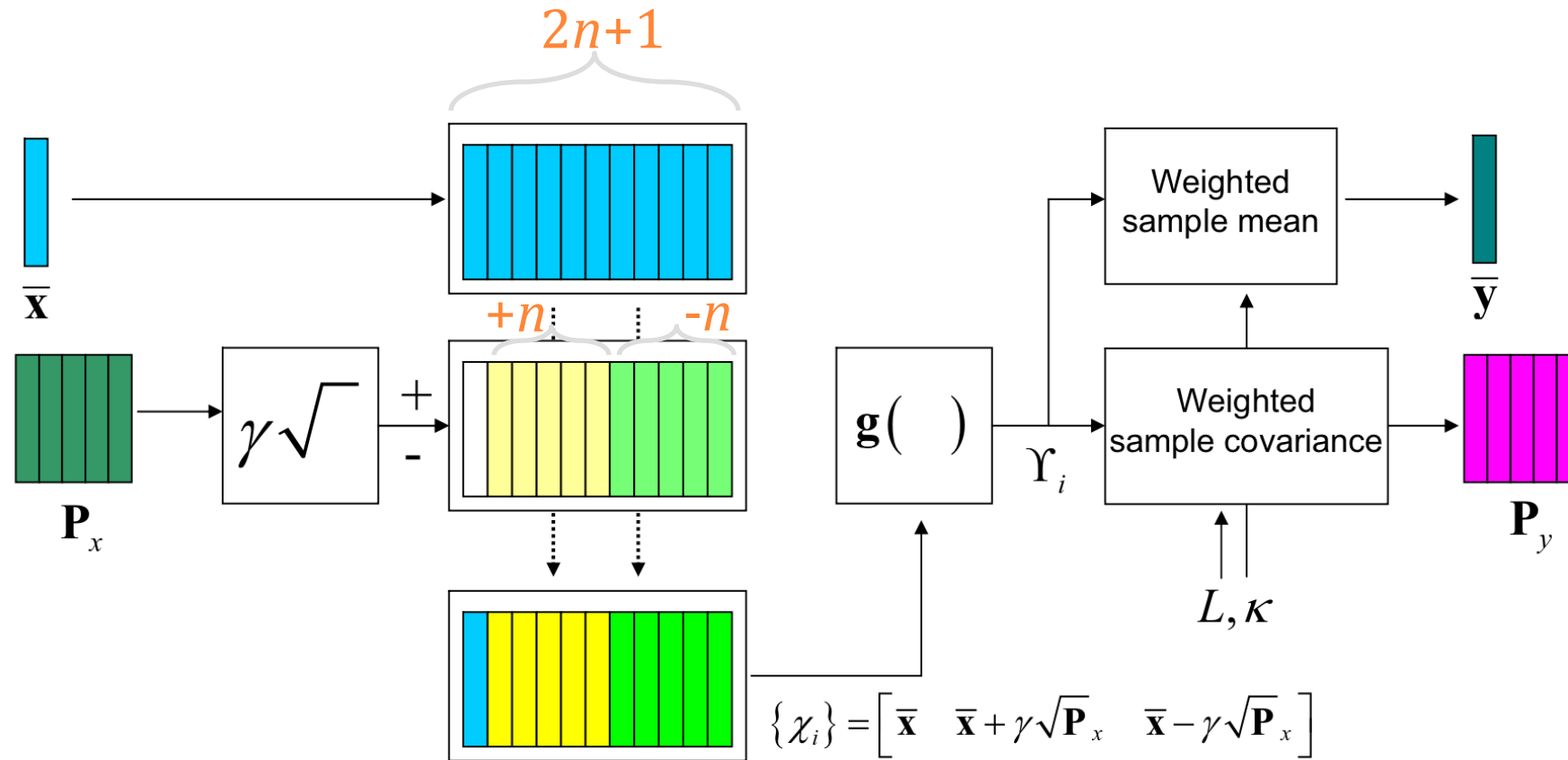
- Compute Gaussian from weighted and transformed points

$$\mu' = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} g(\mathcal{X}^{[i]})$$

$$\Sigma' = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (g(\mathcal{X}^{[i]}) - \mu')(g(\mathcal{X}^{[i]}) - \mu')^\top$$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# (Scaled) Unscented Transform



# Unscented Transform Summary

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- Sigma points

$$\mathbf{x}^{[0]} = \boldsymbol{\mu}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \right)_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{[i]} = \boldsymbol{\mu} - \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \right)_{i-n} \quad \text{for } i = n + 1, \dots, 2n$$

- Weights

$$w_m^{[0]} = \frac{\lambda}{n + \lambda}$$

$$w_c^{[0]} = w_m^{[0]} + (1 - \alpha^2 + \beta)$$

$$w_m^{[i]} = w_c^{[i]} = \frac{1}{2(n + \lambda)} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, 2n$$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# SUT Parameters

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- Free parameters as there is no unique solution
- Scaled Unscented Transform suggests

$$\begin{array}{lll} \kappa & \geq & 0 \\ \alpha & \in & (0, 1] \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \kappa \\ \alpha \end{array}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Influence how far the} \\ \text{sigma points are away} \\ \text{from the mean} \end{array}$$
$$\lambda = \alpha^2(n + \kappa) - n$$
$$\beta = 2 \quad \text{Optimal choice for Gaussians}$$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss



# SUT Parameters

---

- Choose  $\kappa \geq 0$ 
  - to guarantee positive semi-definiteness of the covariance matrix. The specific value of  $\kappa$  is not critical though, so a good default choice is  $\kappa = 0$ .
- Choose  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ 
  - to control the “size” of the sigma-point distribution and should be chosen to avoid sampling non-local effects when the nonlinearities are strong; a default choice is  $\alpha = 1$ .
- Choose  $\beta \geq 0$ 
  - to incorporate knowledge of the higher-order moments of the distribution. For example, for a Gaussian prior the optimal choice is  $\beta = 2$ .
- The original (un-scaled) UT transform is equivalent to:
  - SUT with  $\alpha = 1, \beta = 0$

# (Scaled) Unscented Transform

Sigma points

$$\chi^0 = \mu$$

$$\chi^i = \mu \pm \left( \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\Sigma} \right)_i$$

Weights

$$w_m^0 = \frac{\lambda}{n + \lambda} \quad w_c^0 = \frac{\lambda}{n + \lambda} + (1 - \alpha^2 + \beta)$$

$$w_m^i = w_c^i = \frac{1}{2(n + \lambda)} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, 2n$$

Pass sigma points through nonlinear function

$$\psi^i = g(\chi^i)$$

Recover mean and covariance

$$\mu' = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^i \psi^i$$

$$\Sigma' = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^i (\psi^i - \mu')(\psi^i - \mu')^T$$

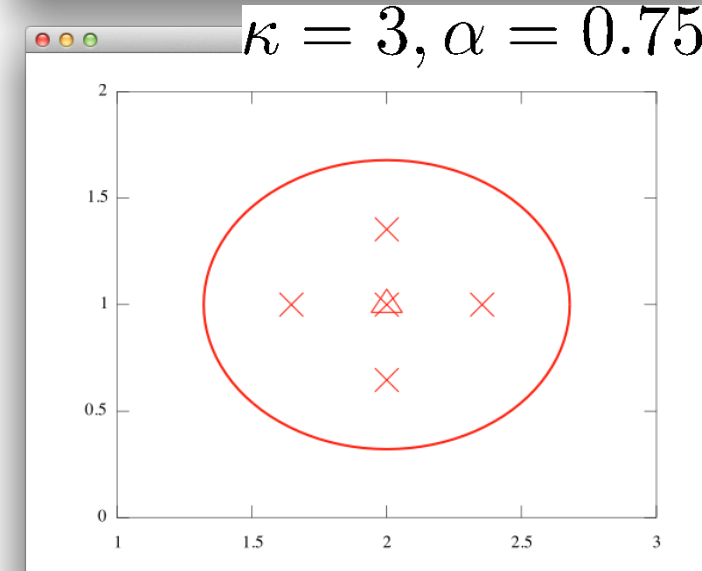
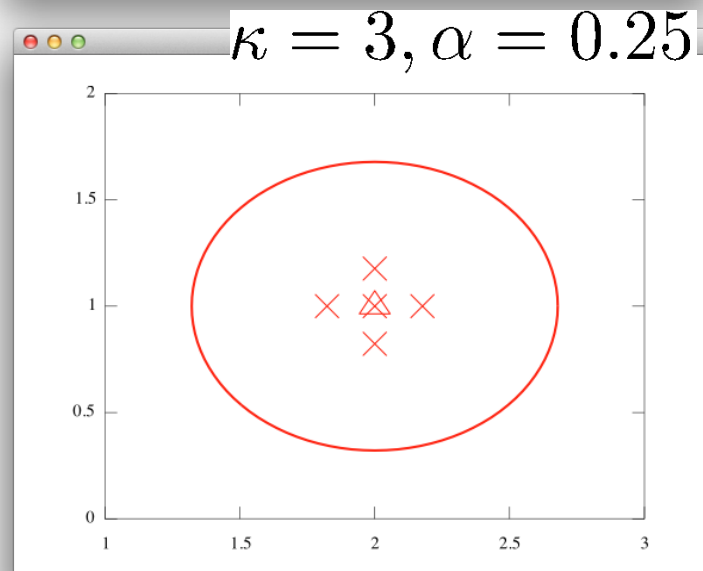
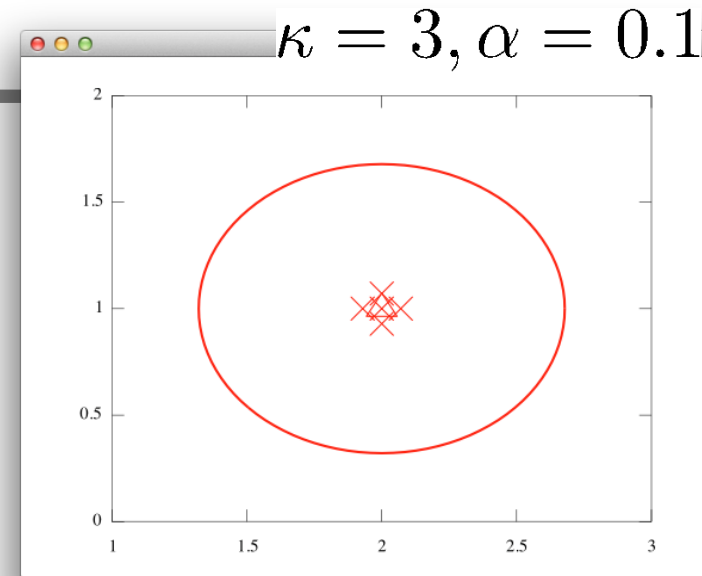
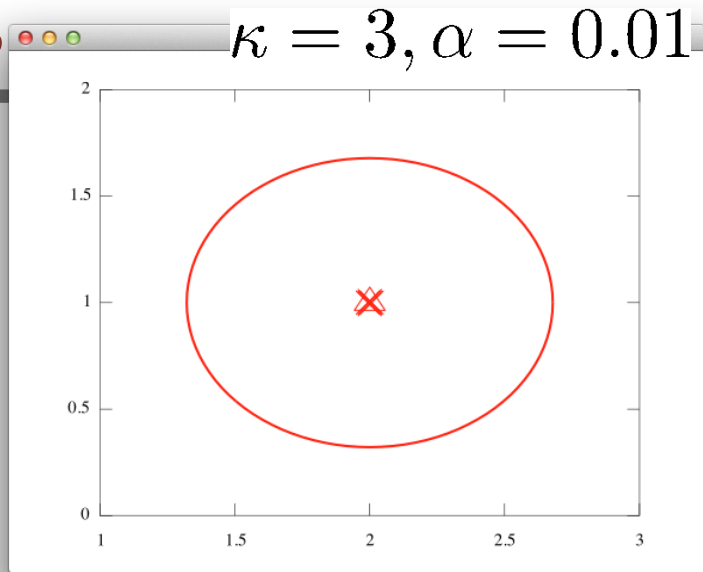
$$\lambda = \alpha^2(n + \kappa) - n$$

$0 < \alpha \leq 1$  Sigma point scaling

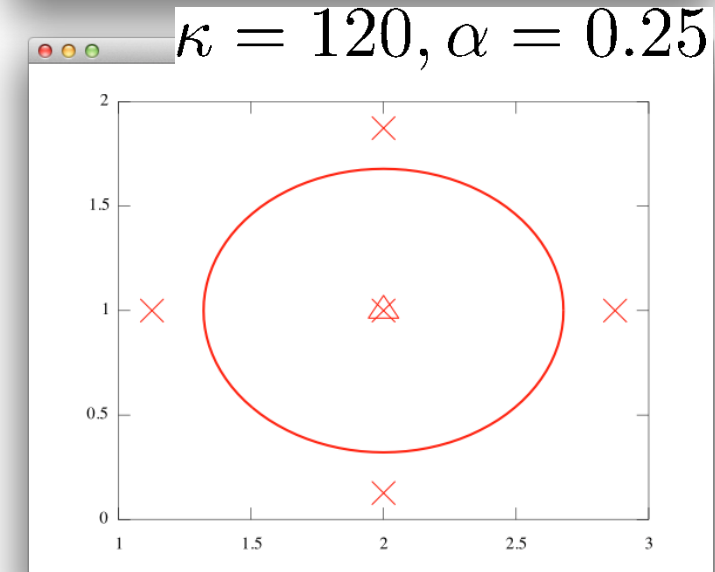
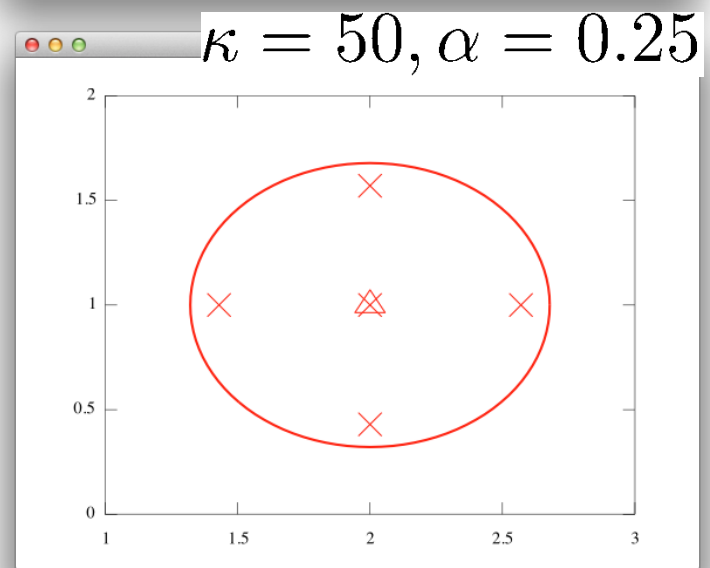
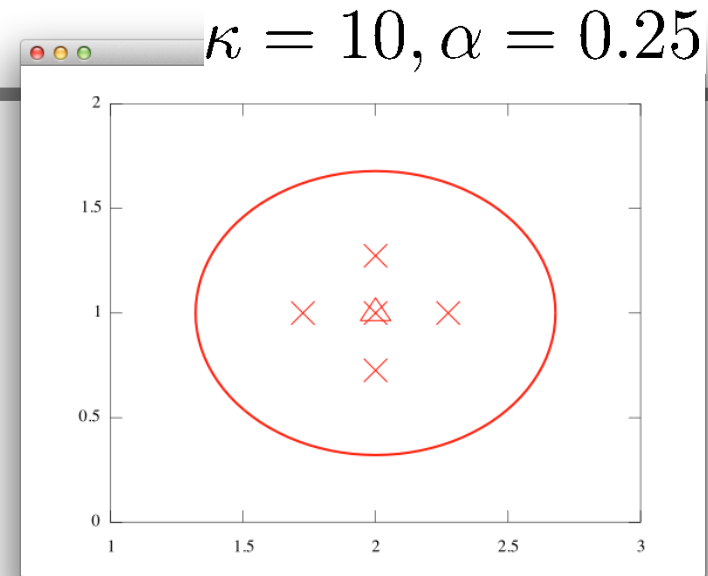
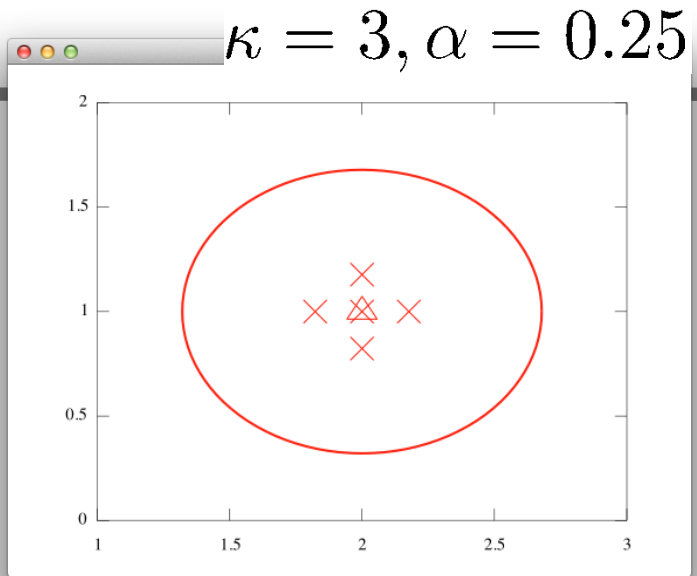
$\beta \geq 0$  Higher-order moment matching

$\kappa \geq 0$  Scalar tuning parameter

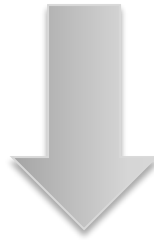
# Examples



# Examples



- 
- How to apply UT to estimation??



UKF (Unscented Kalman Filter)

# UKF Uses the Kalman Update

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- KF is the Best Linear Unbiased Estimator (BLUE)
  - i.e., if we restrict our estimator to the class of linear estimators, then the KF is the best *linear* MMSE estimator\*
  - What should  $A$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  be?

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = A\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b} \quad \leftarrow \text{Affine function of } \mathbf{z}$$

\* Note: a nonlinear estimator could do better!!

## To derive, we want our error to be orthogonal to the measurement space

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- Estimator

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}$$

- Error

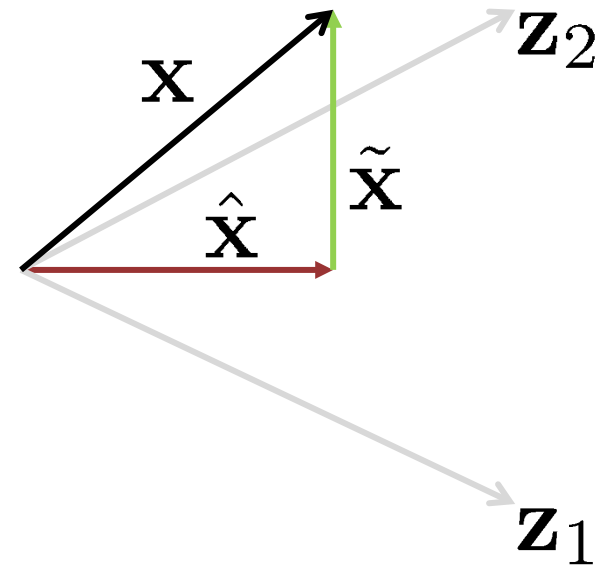
$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

- Unbiased

$$E[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}] = \mathbf{0}$$

- Orthogonal

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \perp \mathbf{z}$$
$$E[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{z}^\top] = \mathbf{0}$$



# Best Linear Unbiased Estimator (BLUE)

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- Unbiased  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{b} = \mu_x - A\mu_z$

- Orthogonal  $\Rightarrow A = \Sigma_{\mathbf{xz}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{zz}}^{-1}$

- Estimator

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mu_x + \Sigma_{\mathbf{xz}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{zz}}^{-1}(\mathbf{z} - \mu_z)$$

- Matrix MSE

$$E[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^\top] = \Sigma_{\mathbf{xx}} - \Sigma_{\mathbf{xz}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{zz}}^{-1}\Sigma_{\mathbf{zx}}$$

- Remarks

- The **best estimator** (in the MMSE sense) for *Gaussian Random variables* is identical to
  - The *best linear unbiased estimator* for *arbitrarily distributed* random variables with the *same first- and second-order moments*.



# EKF Algorithm\*

- 1: **Extended\_Kalman\_filter**( $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{z}_t$ ):
- 2:      $\bar{\mu}_t = g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mu_{t-1})$
- 3:      $\bar{\Sigma}_t = G_t \Sigma_{t-1} G_t^\top + R_t$
- 4:      $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^\top (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^\top + Q_t)^{-1}$
- 5:      $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(\mathbf{z}_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
- 6:      $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
- 7:     *return*  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

\* The form shown assumes additive process and observation model noise

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# EKF to UKF – Prediction

- 1: ~~Extended~~<sup>Unscented</sup> Kalman filter( $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{z}_t$ ):
- 2:  $\bar{\mu}_t =$  replace this by sigma point
- 3:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t =$  propagation of the motion
- 4:  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^\top (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^\top + Q_t)^{-1}$
- 5:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(\mathbf{z}_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
- 6:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
- 7: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# UKF Algorithm – Prediction\*

- 1: **Unscented\_Kalman\_filter**( $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{z}_t$ ):
- 2:  $\mathcal{X}_{t-1} = (\mu_{t-1} \quad \mu_{t-1} + \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}} \quad \mu_{t-1} - \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})$
- 3:  $\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^* = g(\mathbf{u}_t, \mathcal{X}_{t-1})$
- 4:  $\bar{\mu}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{*[i]}$
- 5:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)^\top + R_t$

\* The form shown assumes additive process and observation model noise

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# EKF to UKF – Correction

1: ~~Extended~~<sup>Unscented</sup> Kalman\_filter( $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{z}_t$ ):

2:  $\bar{\mu}_t =$  replace this by sigma point

3:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t =$  propagation of the motion

use sigma point propagation for the expected observation and Kalman gain

5:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(\mathbf{z}_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$

6:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$

7: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# UKF Algorithm – Correction (1)\*

$$\begin{aligned} 6: \quad & \bar{\mathcal{X}}_t = (\bar{\mu}_t \quad \bar{\mu}_t + \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t} \quad \bar{\mu}_t - \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t}) \\ 7: \quad & \bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t = h(\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t) \\ 8: \quad & \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} \\ 9: \quad & S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)^\top + Q_t \\ 10: \quad & \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)^\top \end{aligned}$$

\* The form shown assumes additive process and observation model noise

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# UKF Algorithm – Correction (1)\*

$$\begin{aligned} 6: \quad & \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t = (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t \quad \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t + \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\bar{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t} \quad \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t - \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\bar{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t}) \\ 7: \quad & \bar{\mathbf{z}}_t = h(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t) \\ 8: \quad & \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} \\ 9: \quad & S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)(\bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)^\top + Q_t \longrightarrow \Sigma_t^{z,z} \\ 10: \quad & \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t)(\bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)^\top \\ 11: \quad & K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} S_t^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

(from BLUE)

\* The form shown assumes additive process and observation model noise

## UKF Algorithm – Correction (2)

$$6: \quad \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t = (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t \quad \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t + \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\bar{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t} \quad \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t - \sqrt{(n + \lambda)\bar{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_t})$$

$$7: \quad \bar{\mathbf{z}}_t = h(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t)$$

$$8: \quad \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]}$$

$$9: \quad S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)(\bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)^\top + Q_t$$

$$10: \quad \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t)(\bar{\mathbf{z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)^\top$$

$$11: \quad K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} S_t^{-1}$$

$$12: \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_t = \bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_t + K_t(\mathbf{z}_t - \hat{\mathbf{z}}_t)$$

$$13: \quad \Sigma_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t S_t K_t^\top$$

$$14: \quad \text{return } \boldsymbol{\mu}_t, \Sigma_t$$

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# UKF

This version of the algorithm implicitly assumes **additive** zero-mean process and observation noise

```
1:  Algorithm Unscented_Kalman_filter( $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, u_t, z_t$ ):
2:       $\mathcal{X}_{t-1} = (\mu_{t-1} \quad \mu_{t-1} + \gamma\sqrt{\Sigma_{t-1}} \quad \mu_{t-1} - \gamma\sqrt{\Sigma_{t-1}})$ 
3:       $\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^* = g(u_t, \mathcal{X}_{t-1})$ 
4:       $\bar{\mu}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{*[i]}$  ← Take care with means of circular quantities
5:       $\bar{\Sigma}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)^T + R_t$ 
6:       $\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t = (\bar{\mu}_t \quad \bar{\mu}_t + \gamma\sqrt{\bar{\Sigma}_t} \quad \bar{\mu}_t - \gamma\sqrt{\bar{\Sigma}_t})$ 
7:       $\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t = h(\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t)$ 
8:       $\hat{z}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]}$  ←
9:       $S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T + Q_t$ 
10:      $\bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T$ 
11:      $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} S_t^{-1}$ 
12:      $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - \hat{z}_t)$ 
13:      $\Sigma_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t S_t K_t^T$ 
14:     return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$ 
```



# Means of Circular Quantities

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- Trick is to map angles  $\theta_i$  to the unit circle
- Take arithmetic mean of Cartesian quantities

$$\overline{\cos} = \sum_{i=0}^{2N} \cos(\theta_i) w_m^{[i]} \quad \overline{\sin} = \sum_{i=0}^{2N} \sin(\theta_i) w_m^{[i]}$$

- Map back to corresponding “average” angle\*

$$\bar{\theta} = \text{atan2}(\overline{\sin}, \overline{\cos})$$

\*Note: poor approx when  $\theta_i$  is widely distributed

## Similarly

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- Map angular differences, such as

$$(\mathcal{X}^{[i]} - \mu) \quad \text{to} \quad [-\pi, \pi]$$

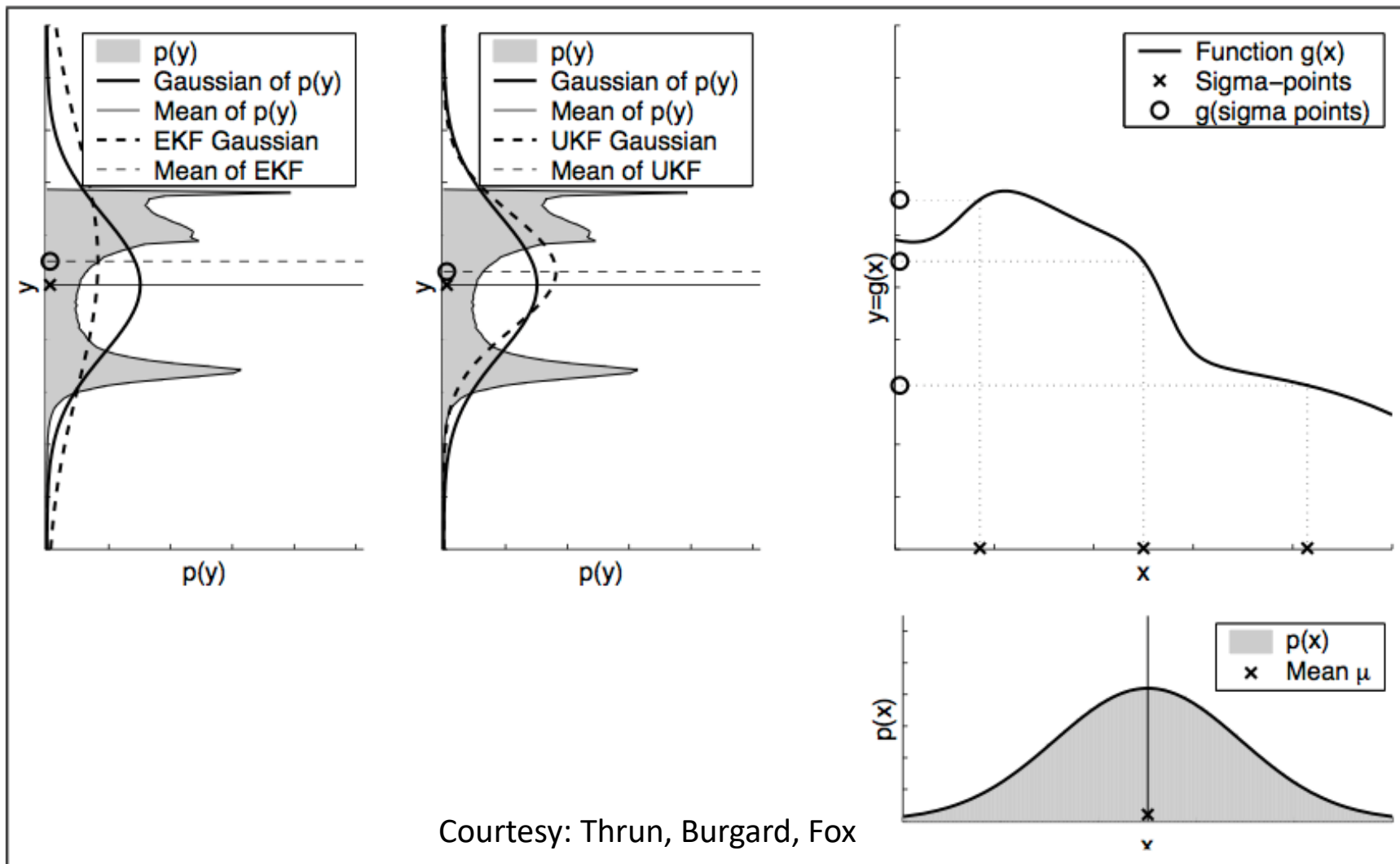
when computing innovation and covariance expressions, e.g.:

$$\Sigma_{xx} = \sum_{i=0}^{2N} w_c^{[i]} (\mathcal{X}^{[i]} - \mu_x)(\mathcal{X}^{[i]} - \mu_x)^\top$$

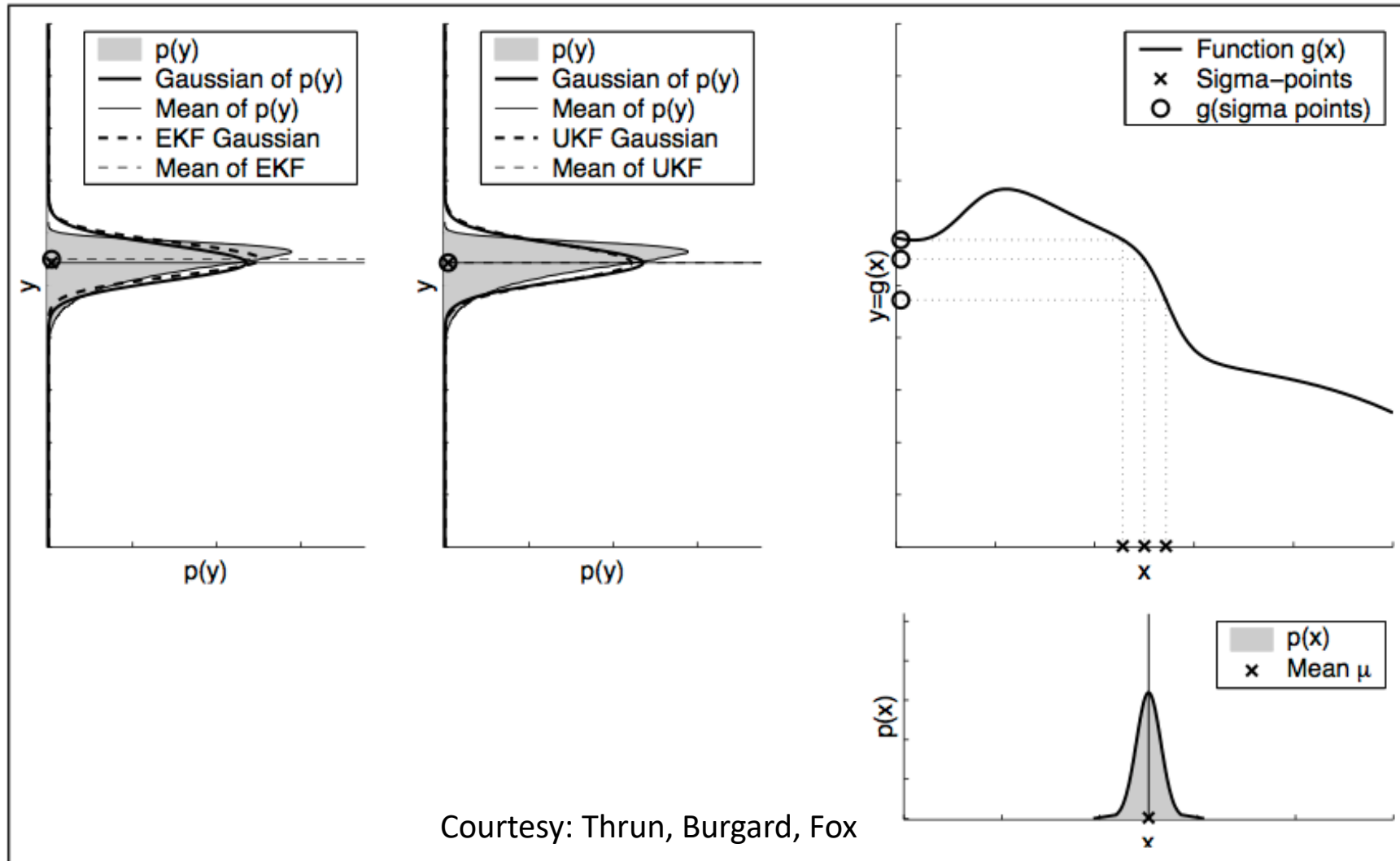
$$\Sigma_{xz} = \sum_{i=0}^{2N} w_c^{[i]} (\mathcal{X}^{[i]} - \mu_x)(\mathcal{Z}^{[i]} - \mu_z)^\top$$

i.e.  $2\pi - 0 = 0$  !!!

# UKF vs. EKF



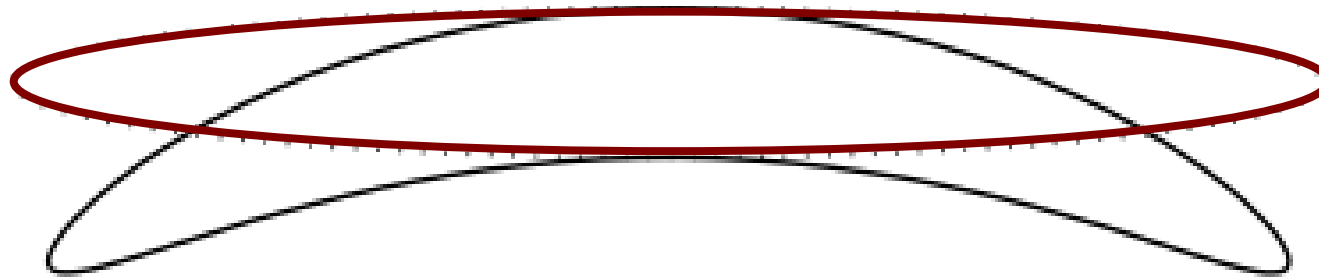
# UKF vs. EKF (Small Covariance)



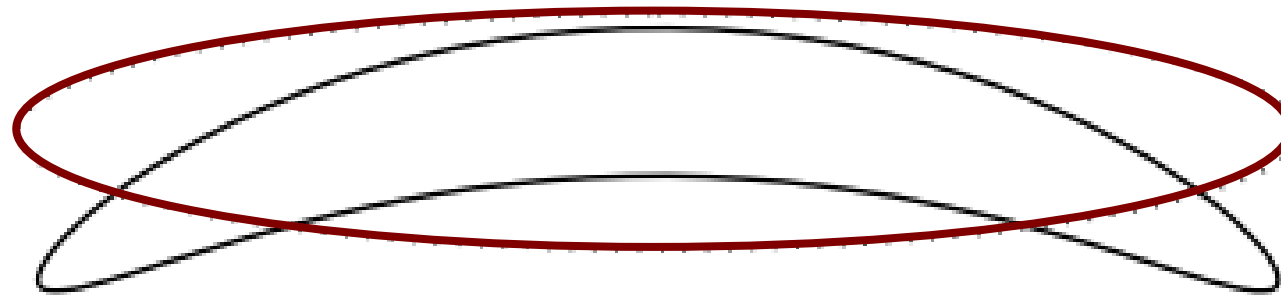
# UKF vs. EKF – Banana Shape

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EKF approximation



UKF approximation



Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# UKF Summary

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- **Highly efficient:** Same complexity as EKF, with a constant factor slower in typical practical applications
- **Better linearization than EKF:** Accurate in first two derivatives\* of Taylor expansion (EKF only first term)
- **Derivative-free:** No Jacobians needed
- **Still not optimal!**

\* Accurate in first three derivatives if Gaussian prior

# UKF vs. EKF

---

- Same results as EKF for linear models
- Better approximation than EKF for non-linear models
- Differences often “somewhat small”
- No Jacobians needed for the UKF
- Same complexity class
- Slightly slower than the EKF

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss

# Literature

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## Unscented Transform and UKF

- Thrun et al.: “Probabilistic Robotics”, Chapter 3.4
- “A New Extension of the Kalman Filter to Nonlinear Systems” by Julier and Uhlmann, 1995
- “Sigma-Point Kalman Filters for Probabilistic Inference in Dynamic State-Space Models”, PhD Thesis, Rudolph van der Merwe, 2004

Courtesy: Cyrill Stachniss