

# Multiple Object Tracking: Course Outline

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# Outline

- 1 Tracking
- 2 Single Object Tracking
- 3 Multiple Object Tracking
- 4 Random Finite Sets
- 5 Multiple Object Tracking Using Conjugate Pairs

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## 1 Tracking

- Introduction
- Bayesian Filtering
- Motion Modeling
- Measurement Modeling
- Kalman Filter: A Bayesian Filtering Example

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## 2 Single Object Tracking

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- Prediction & Measurement Updates
- Clutter Modeling
- Data Association
- Algorithms
- Gating

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# Introduction

## Single Object Tracking (SOT) and Multiple Object Tracking (MOT)

**Single Object Tracking (SOT):** SOT is a filtering problem. It can be described as the sequential processing of noisy sensor measurements to determine an object's state:

- Position.
- Other properties like kinematics, etc.
- Other attributes related to the detected object like Electronic Support Measures (ESM) data.

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# Introduction

## Definition

**Multiple Object Tracking (MOT):** Multiple Object Tracking (MOT) is the sequential processing of noisy sensor measurements to determine

- the number of dynamic objects,
- and each dynamic object's state.

Simply put, MOT, jointly detects object and applies Single Object Tracking (SOT) to each of these objects.

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# Introduction

- Multiple sensors-multiple target tracking scenario.
- Associating tracks from multiple sensors to a target.
- Errors can affect operators ability to analyze formations and consequently, the intent.

# Introduction

## Challenges in MOT

- The first challenge is detecting objects. Since the number of dynamic objects is unknown, detection needs to be done at each time step.
- The states of the detected objects are also unknown, thus their states need to be estimated at each time step.
- New objects can enter the sensor's range and objects detected in the previous time step can leave the sensor's range.
- Objects can occlude one another leading to missed detections.
- False alarms or missed detections due to inherent sensor noise.
- Data association
  - which detections are from objects detected previously.
  - which detections are from new objects in the sensors range.
  - false detections (clutter).

# Introduction

## Types of Tracking

- 1 **Point Object Tracking:** a single detection is returned per object per time step.
- 2 **Extended Object Tracking:** multiple detections are returned per object per time step.
- 3 **Group Object Tracking:** multiple resolvable objects are treated as a group per time step.
- 4 **Tracking with Multi-Path Propagation:** tracking Non Line-of-Sight (NLOS) dynamic objects.
- 5 **Tracking with Unresolved Measurements:** multiple objects return a single measurement.



# Bayesian Filtering

## Introduction

- Tracking is basically detection of dynamic objects and estimation of their hidden states in the presence of uncertainty.
- Bayesian filters have been shown to perform well in estimating hidden states in the presence of uncertainty.
- All Bayesian filters successively follow a two step process.
  - **Motion Update (Prediction)**: Use a motion model to predict the state of the objects in the next time-step.
  - **Measurement Update**: Update the object state's distributions using a measurement model based on the measurement obtained in the current time- step.

# Bayesian Filtering

## Nomenclature

- $\mathbf{x}_k$  is the state vector of an object at time  $k$ .
- $\mathbf{z}_k$  is the measurement vector at time  $k$  and  $\mathbf{z}_{1:\tau} = (\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \dots, \mathbf{z}_\tau)$  is a sequence of measurements upto time  $\tau$ .
- **Bayesian Filtering Recursion**
  - **Prediction (Chapman-Kolmogorov Equation)**

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) p(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{k-1} \quad (1)$$

- **Update (Bayes Rule)**

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{z}_k | \mathbf{x}_k) p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1})}{p(\mathbf{z}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1})} \quad (2)$$

- **Predicted Likelihood (Distribution/Probability of Evidence)**

# Bayesian Filtering

## Nomenclature

### Bayes Update:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{z}_k | \mathbf{x}_k) p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1})}{p(\mathbf{z}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1})}$$

$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k}) \rightarrow$  Posterior.

$p(\mathbf{z}_k | \mathbf{x}_k) \rightarrow$  Measurement Likelihood.

$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1}) \rightarrow$  Prior.

$p(\mathbf{z}_k | \mathbf{z}_{1:k-1}) \rightarrow$  Predicted Likelihood.

# Bayesian Filtering

## Nomenclature

Bayesian filtering alternatively applies the prediction and measurement updates to update the posterior of the object state at each time step.

Initial:  $p(\mathbf{x}_1)$

Update:  $p(\mathbf{x}_1|\mathbf{z}_1)$

Prediction:  $p(\mathbf{x}_2|\mathbf{z}_1)$

Update:  $p(\mathbf{x}_2|\mathbf{z}_{1:2})$

Prediction:  $p(\mathbf{x}_3|\mathbf{z}_{1:2})$

Update:  $p(\mathbf{x}_3|\mathbf{z}_{1:3})$

Prediction:  $p(\mathbf{x}_4|\mathbf{z}_{1:3})$

Update:  $p(\mathbf{x}_4|\mathbf{z}_{1:4})$