

**ME/CS 132:
State Estimation & Localization**

**Lecture 2/6:
Linear Kalman Filter**

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State Estimation & Localization Overview

- (1/6) Introduction
- (2/6) TODAY: Linear Kalman Filter
 - State Space Models (&Markov Systems)
 - Recursive Bayesian Filtering
 - Linear Kalman Filter
- (3/6) Extended Kalman Filter and Unscented Kalman Filter
- (4/6) Particle Filters
- (5/6) Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)
- (6/6) Issues in SLAM



State Space Systems

Linear State Space Model (Gauss-Markov System)

Transition Function

$$x_k = A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k + q_k$$

$$z_k = C_k x_k + r_k$$

Measurement Model

Process Noise

$$q_k \sim N(0, Q)$$

$$r_k \sim N(0, R)$$

Measurement Noise

State

$$x_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Measurement

$$z_k \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

Input

$$u_k \in \mathbb{R}^l$$

Parameters

$$A_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, B_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times l}, C_k \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$



State Space Systems

Linear State Space Model (Gauss-Markov System)

Transition Function

$$x_k = A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k + q_k$$

$$z_k = C_k x_k + r_k$$

Measurement Model

Process Noise

$$q_k \sim N(0, Q)$$

$$r_k \sim N(0, R)$$

Measurement Noise

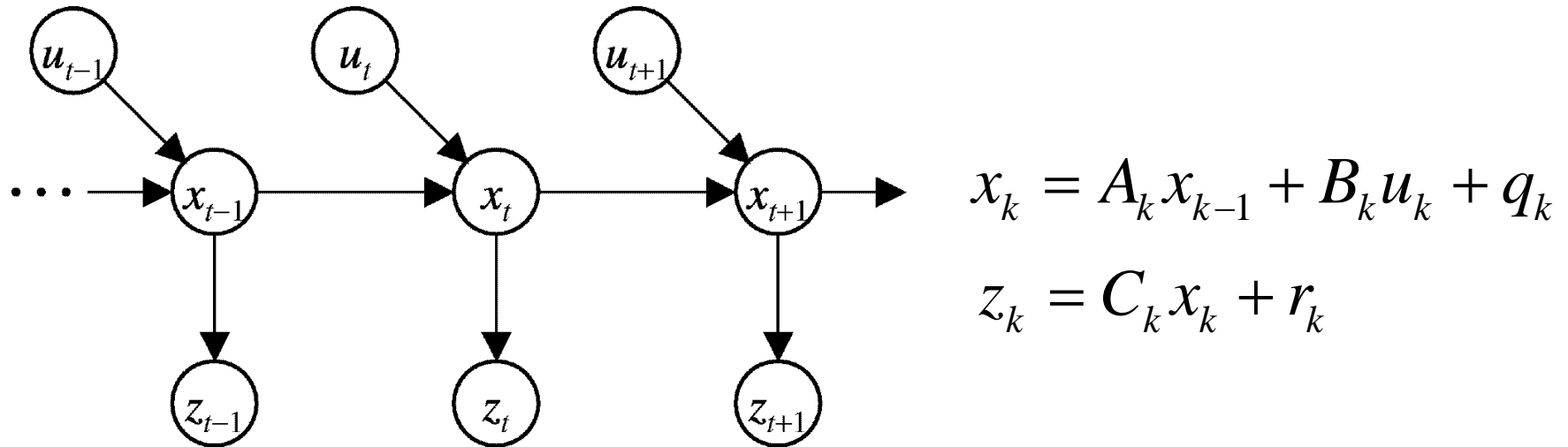
In probabilistic terms the model is

$$p(x_k | x_{k-1}) = N(A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k, Q)$$

$$p(z_k | x_k) = N(C_k x_k, R)$$



State Space is Markovian



Markov property 1:

Future x_{k+1} is independent of the **past** given the **present** x_k

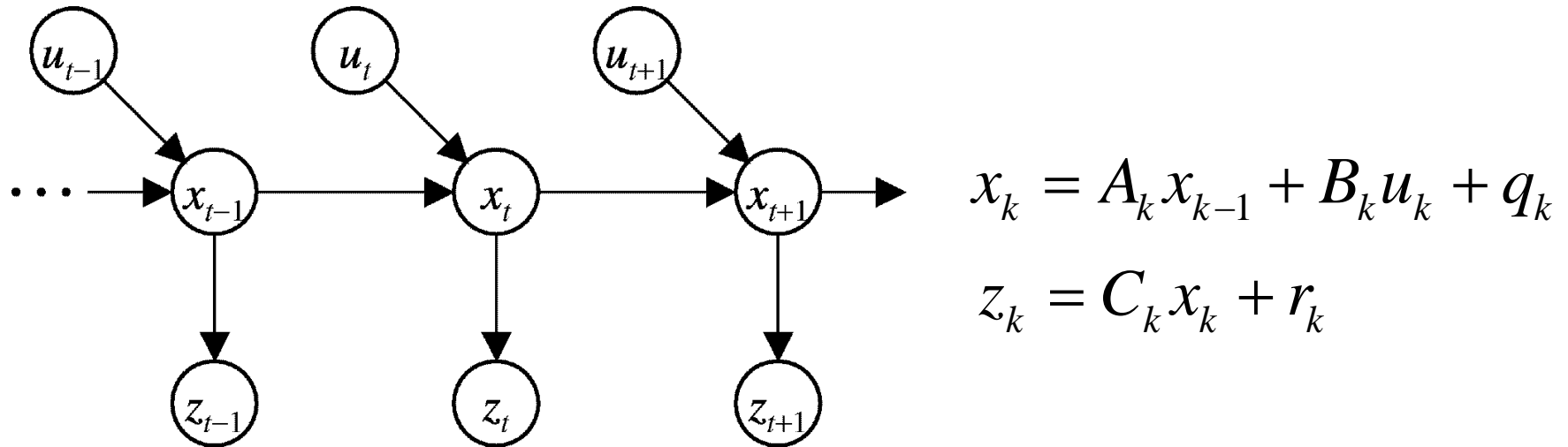
$$p(x_k | x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:k-1}, u_{1:k}) = p(x_k | x_{k-1}, u_k)$$

↙

$$x_{1:k} \triangleq [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k]$$



State Space is Markovian



Markov property 2:

Measurements are conditionally independent given the current state

$$p(z_k | x_{1:k}, z_{1:k-1}, u_{1:k}) = p(z_k | x_k)$$



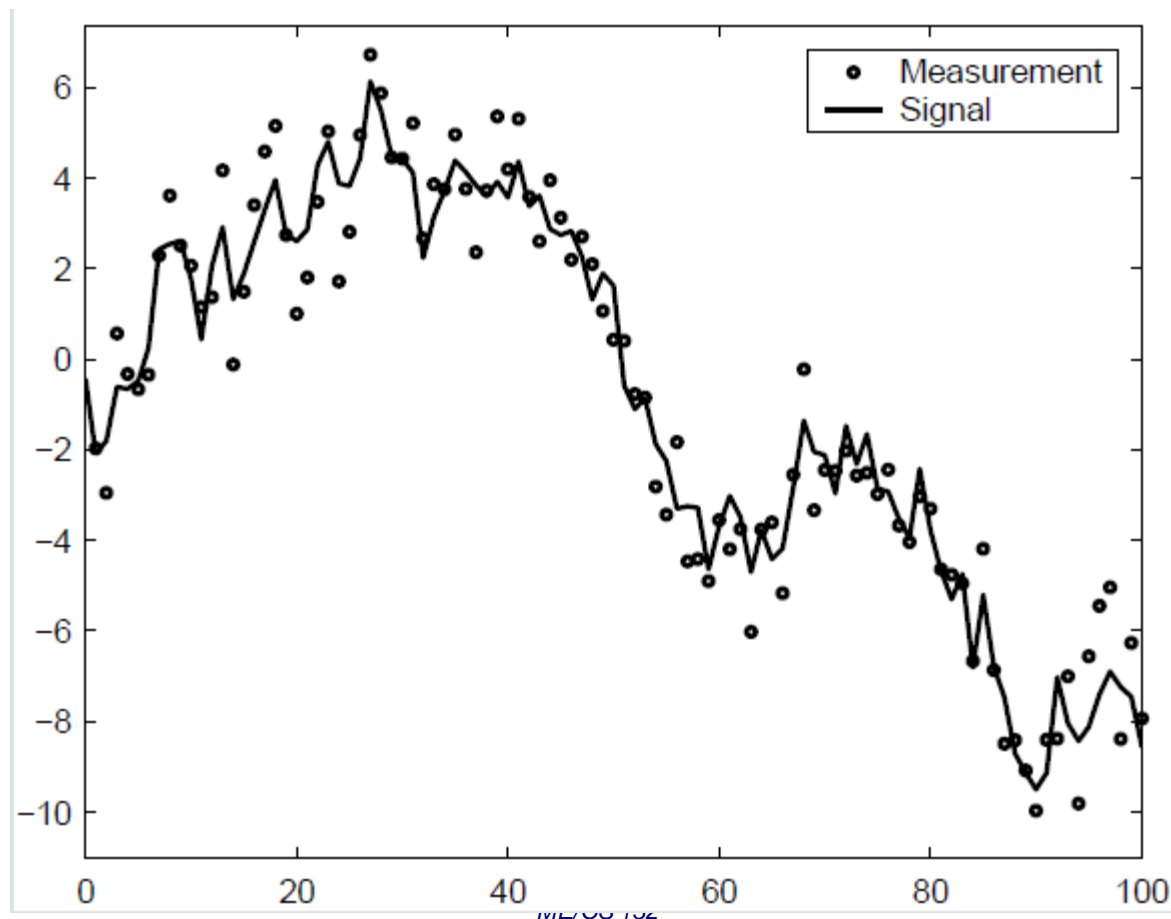
Example: Random Walk

$$x_k = x_{k-1} + q_k$$

$$q_k \sim N(0, Q)$$

$$z_k = x_k + r_k$$

$$r_k \sim N(0, R)$$





What are we trying to do?

Compute the distribution: $p(x_k | z_{1:k})$

Note: have removed u from equations – not a stochastic variable & just complicates math

Given :

1. prior distribution $p(x_0)$

2. State space model $x_k \sim p(x_k | x_{k-1})$

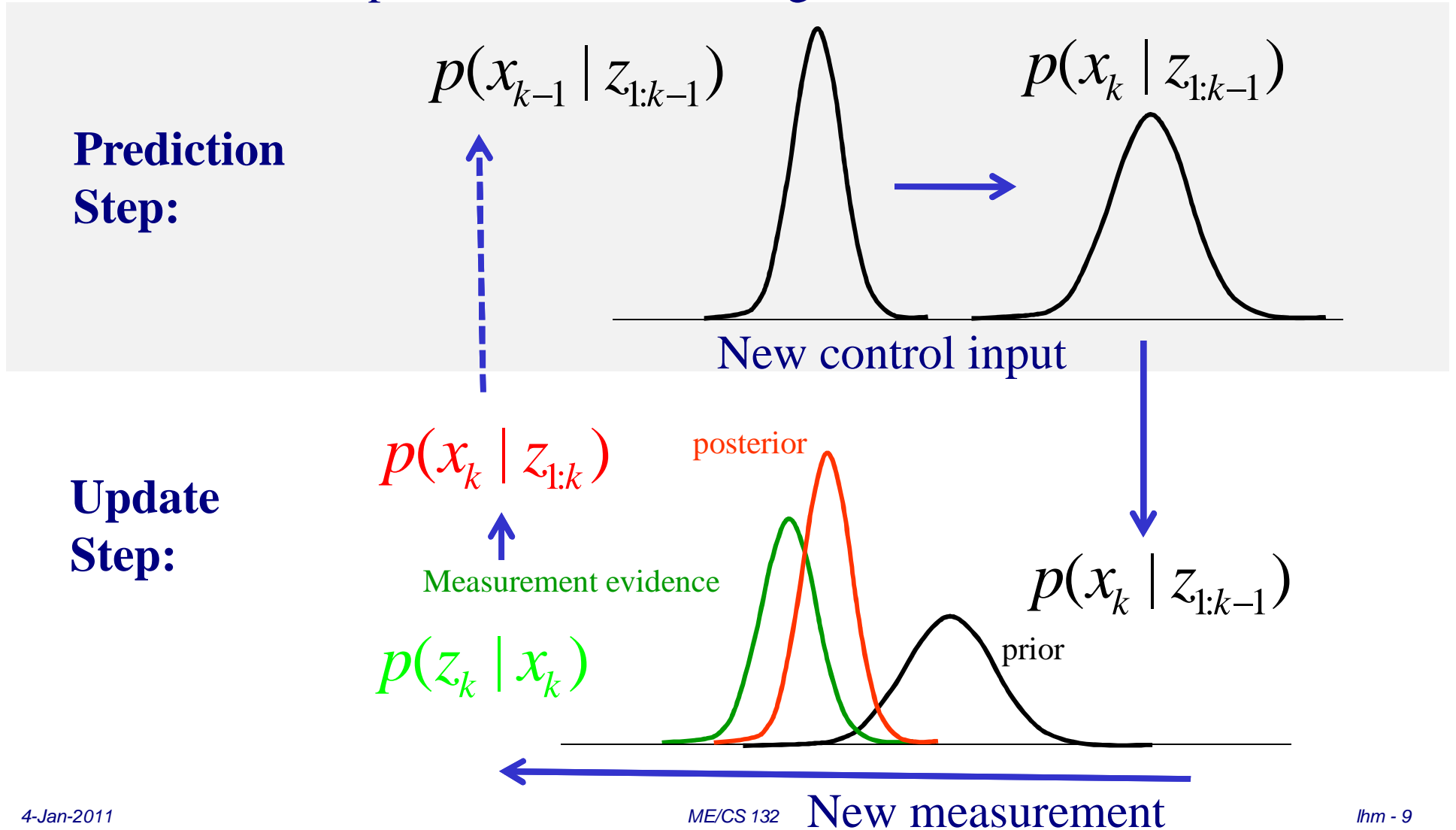
$z_k \sim p(z_k | x_k)$

3. Measurement sequence $z_{1:k} = [z_1, \dots, z_k]$



Bayesian Recursion

Computation is done through a recursion:





Prediction Step

Assuming we have the posterior distribution of the previous time step:

$$p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) \longrightarrow p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

Prediction (to next step)

We can define the following joint distribution: [Product rule]

$$p(x_k, x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) = p(x_k | x_{k-1}, z_{1:k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1})$$

$$= p(x_k | x_{k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1})$$

[Markov property]

Integrating the above pdf gives the **prediction step**:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = \int p(x_k | x_{k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) dx_{k-1} \quad \text{[Sum rule]}$$

[also called the Chapman-Kolmogorov equation]



Update Step

Assuming we have a prior from the prediction step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

And we have the measurement likelihood function:

$$p(z_k | x_k)$$

The posterior (or update step) is computed using Bayes' Rule:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = \frac{1}{\eta} p(z_k | x_k, z_{1:k-1}) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

$$\eta = \int p(z_k | x_k, z_{1:k-1}) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) dx_k$$

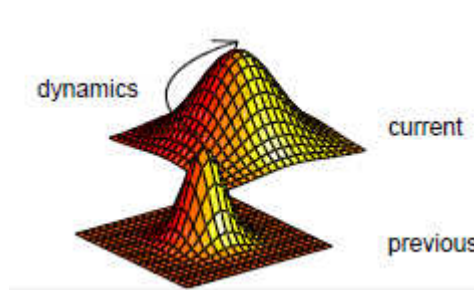
Using the Markov Assumption, this results in the **update step**:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = \frac{1}{\eta} p(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$



Optimal Bayesian Estimator:

Initialization: $p(x_0)$



Prediction:

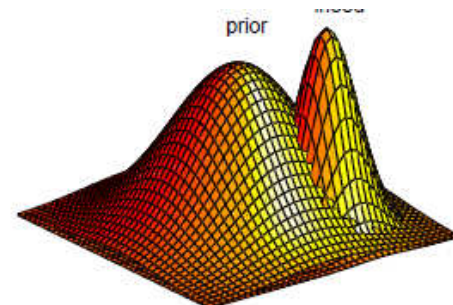
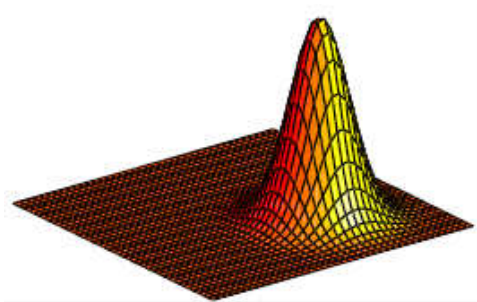
$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = \int p(x_k | x_{k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) dx_{k-1}$$

$k = k + 1$

Update:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) \propto p(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

z_k





Kalman Filter

- We will now show the Kalman Filter as a special case of the Optimal Bayesian Estimator
- First the Prediction step
- Then the Update step
- We will prove this on the board after we see the answer.



Kalman Filter: Prediction Step

Recall propagation equations:

$$x_k = A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k + q_k$$


And how this is represented as a pdf:

$$p(x_k | x_{k-1}) = N(A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k, Q)$$

And if we assume that prior $p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) = N(\mu_{k-1}, \Sigma_{k-1})$

update step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = \int p(x_k | x_{k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) dx_{k-1}$$


$$N(A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k, Q_k)$$



Kalman Filter: Prediction Step

prediction step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = \int p(x_k | x_{k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) dx_{k-1}$$

$$N(A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k, Q_k) \quad N(\mu_{k-1}, \Sigma_{k-1})$$

Posterior is just another Gaussian!
(Proof: will show later)

....

$$p(x | z_{1:k-1}) = N(A_k \mu_{k-1} + B_k u_k, A_k \Sigma_{k-1} A_k^T + Q_k)$$



Kalman Filter: Update Step

Recall measurement equations:

$$z_k = C_k x_k + r_k \quad r_k \sim N(0, R)$$

which can be written as the following pdf:

$$p(z_k | x_k) = N(C_k x_k, R)$$

update step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = \frac{1}{\eta} p(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

$$N(A_k \mu_{k-1} + B_k u_k, A_k \Sigma_{k-1} A_k^T + Q_k) \triangleq N(\bar{\mu}_k, \bar{\Sigma}_k)$$

Output of prediction step



Kalman Filter: Update Step

update step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = \frac{1}{\eta} p(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

$$N(C_k x_k, R)$$

$$N(\bar{\mu}_k, \bar{\Sigma}_k)$$

The product of two Gaussians -> is another Gaussian

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = N(\mu_k, \Sigma_k) \quad (\text{Proof: will show later})$$

$$\begin{cases} \mu_k = \bar{\mu}_k + K_k (z_k - C_k \bar{\mu}_k) \\ \Sigma_k = (I - K_k C_k) \bar{\Sigma}_k \end{cases} \quad \text{with} \quad K_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k C_k^T (C_k \bar{\Sigma}_k C_k^T + Q_k)^{-1}$$



Putting it all together : KF

Prior estimate

$$p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) = N(\mu_{k-1}, \Sigma_{k-1})$$

Prediction step

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mu}_k &= A_k \mu_{k-1} + B_k u_k \\ \bar{\Sigma}_k &= A_k \Sigma_{k-1} A_k^T + Q_k\end{aligned}$$

Predicted estimate

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = N(\bar{\mu}_k, \bar{\Sigma}_k)$$

Update Step

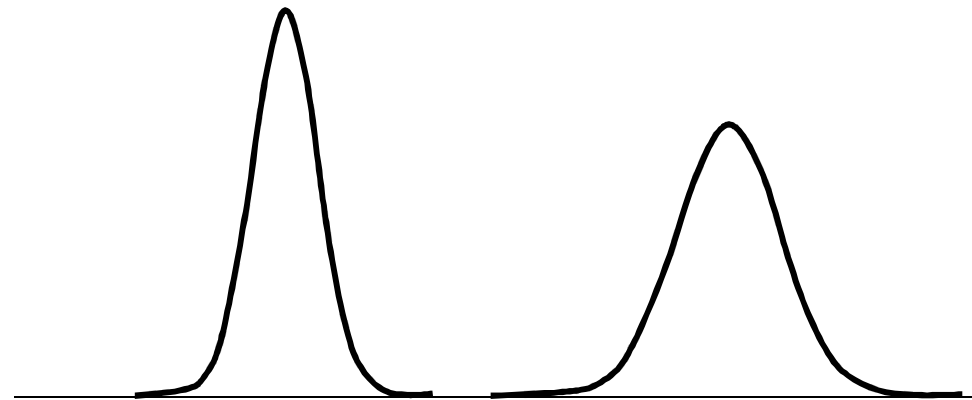
$$\begin{aligned}K_k &= \bar{\Sigma}_k C_k^T (C_k \bar{\Sigma}_k C_k^T + R_k)^{-1} \\ \mu_k &= \bar{\mu}_k + K_k (z_k - C_k \bar{\mu}_k) \\ \Sigma_k &= (I - K_k C_k) \bar{\Sigma}_k\end{aligned}$$

Posterior estimate

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = N(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$$



So what do these terms mean?



$$p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) = N(\mu_{k-1}, \Sigma_{k-1}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = N(\bar{\mu}_k, \bar{\Sigma}_k)$$

Prior estimate

Prediction step

Predicted estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_k &= A_k \mu_{k-1} + B_k u_k \\ \bar{\Sigma}_k &= A_k \Sigma_{k-1} A_k^T + Q_k \end{aligned}$$

Covariance is skewed by Dynamics & grows with process noise

Mean is shifted by dynamics & control input



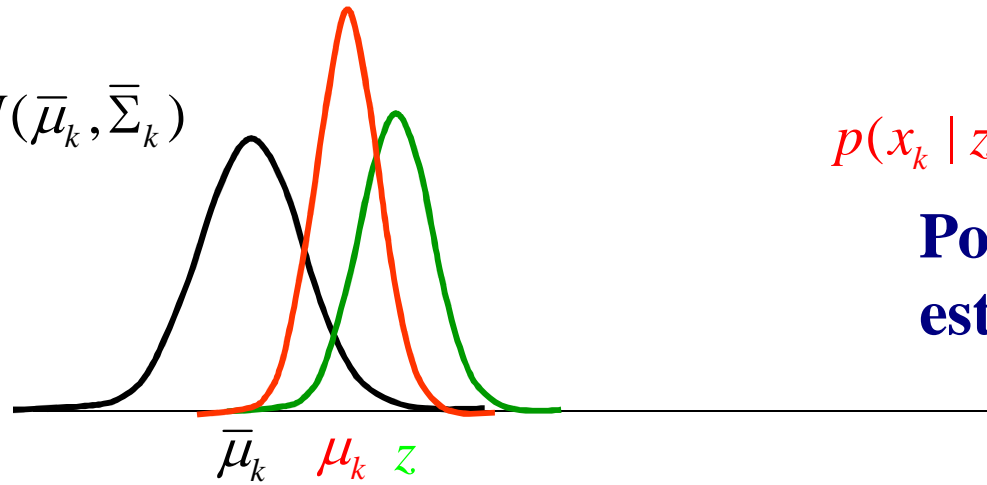
So what do these terms mean?

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = N(\bar{\mu}_k, \bar{\Sigma}_k)$$

Predicted estimate

$$p(x_k | z_1) = N(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$$

Posterior estimate



posterior mean

$$\mu_k = \bar{\mu}_k + K_k (z_k - C_k \bar{\mu}_k)$$

“innovation”

“Kalman Gain” $K_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k C_k^T (C_k \bar{\Sigma}_k C_k^T + R_k)^{-1}$

Is a tradeoff between covariance of prediction and measurement

Posterior covariance

$$\Sigma_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k - K_k C_k \bar{\Sigma}_k$$

Note: shrinking of covariance



Random Walk Example

State equations

$$x_k = x_{k-1} + q_k \quad q_k \sim N(0, Q)$$

$$z_k = x_k + r_k \quad r_k \sim N(0, R)$$

Prediction step {

$$\bar{\mu}_k = \mu_{k-1}$$

$$\bar{\Sigma}_k = \Sigma_{k-1} + Q_k$$

The Kalman gain is a tradeoff
If the sensor is really noisy

$$R_k \rightarrow \infty, K_k \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Sigma_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k$$

$$\mu_k = \bar{\mu}_k$$

Update {

$$K_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k (\bar{\Sigma}_k + R_k)^{-1}$$

$$\mu_k = \bar{\mu}_k + K_k (z_k - \bar{\mu}_k)$$

$$\Sigma_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k - K_k \bar{\Sigma}_k$$

If the sensor is really good

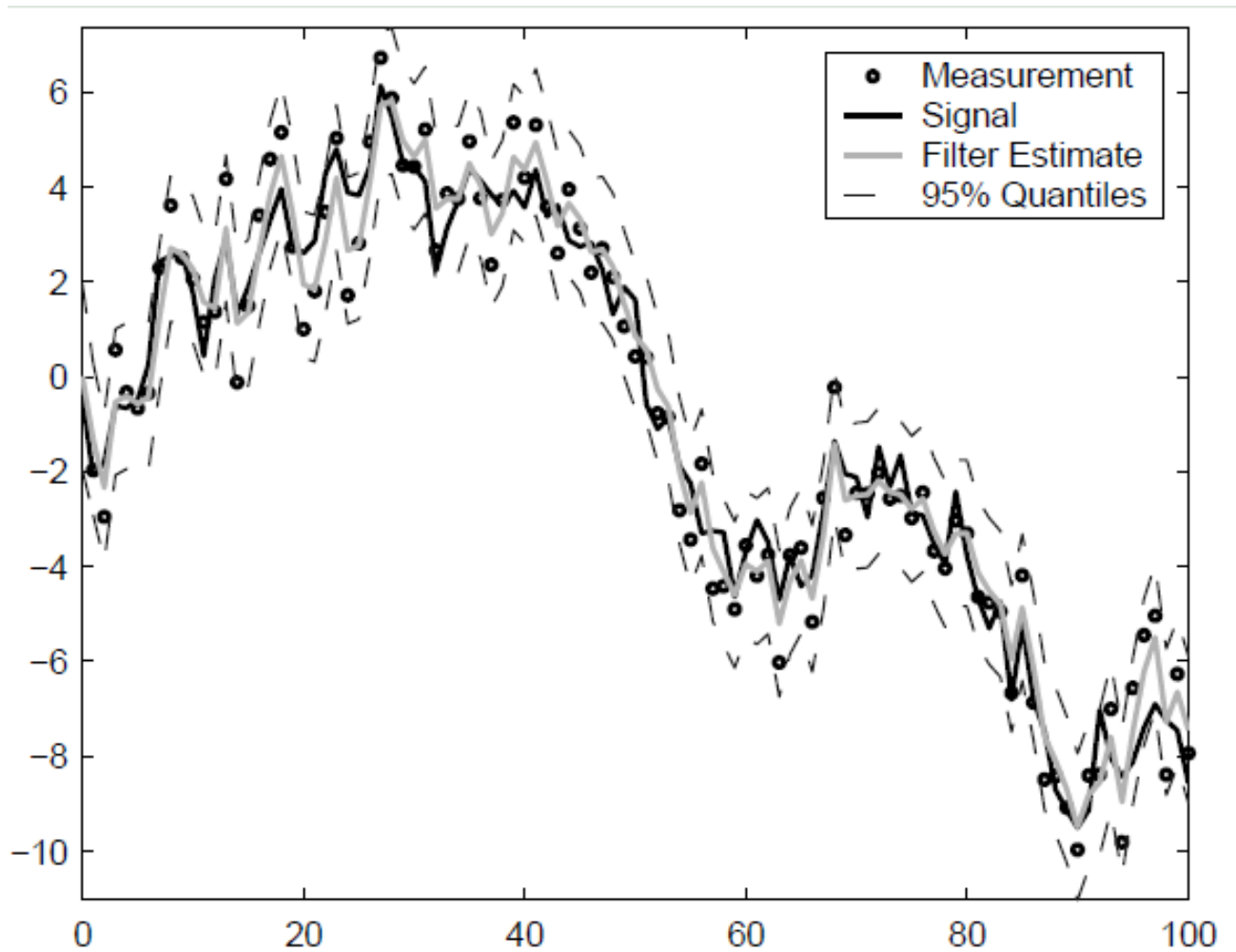
$$R_k \rightarrow 0, K_k \rightarrow I$$

$$\Sigma_k = 0$$

$$\mu_k = z_k$$

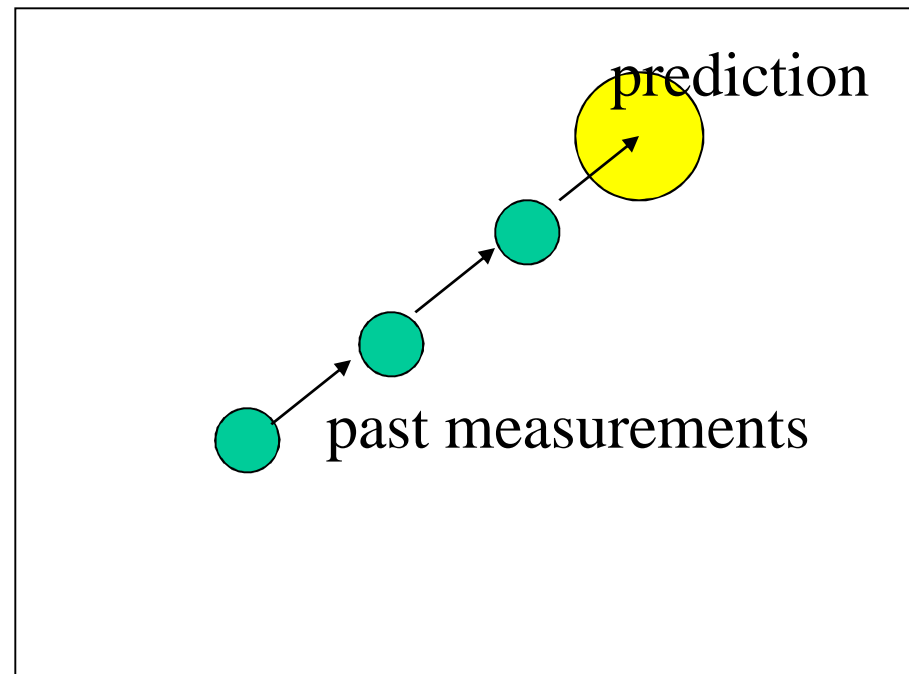


Random Walk Example





Velocity estimation (from position)





Kalman Filter for 2D Tracking Example

State Propagation

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{k+1} \\ y_{k+1} \\ \dot{x}_{k+1} \\ \dot{y}_{k+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \Delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \Delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_k \\ y_k \\ \dot{x}_k \\ \dot{y}_k \end{pmatrix} + N(0, Q) \quad Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & q^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & q^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Random walk
in velocity

Measurement

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{obs} \\ y_{obs} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_k \\ y_k \\ \dot{x}_k \\ \dot{y}_k \end{pmatrix} + N(0, R) \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} r^2 & 0 \\ 0 & r^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Only observe location



KF Updates

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \Delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \Delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = ()$$

$$x_k = A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k + q_k$$

$$z_k = C_k x_k + r_k$$

$$q_k \sim N(0, Q)$$

$$r_k \sim N(0, R)$$

$$\bar{\mu}_k = A \mu_{k-1}$$

$$\bar{\Sigma}_k = A \Sigma_{k-1} A^T + Q$$

Trades off uncertainty
in position (x,y) with R

$$K_k = \bar{\Sigma}_k C^T (C \bar{\Sigma}_k C^T + R)^{-1}$$

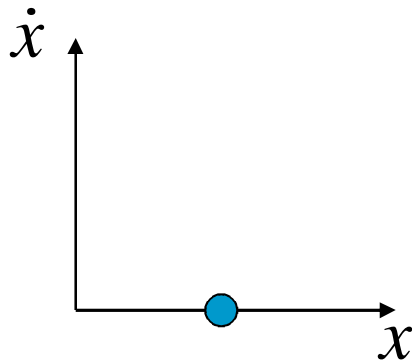
$$\mu_k = \bar{\mu}_k + K_k (z_k - C \bar{\mu}_k)$$

$$\Sigma_k = (I - K_k C) \bar{\Sigma}_k$$

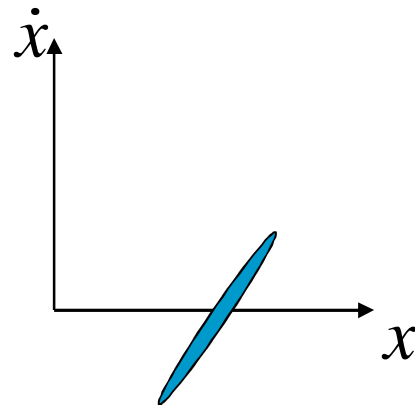


Cartoon of x, \dot{x} state

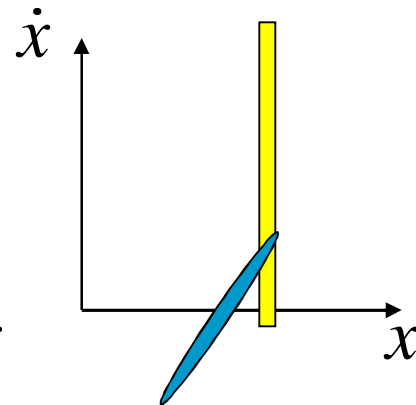
initial position



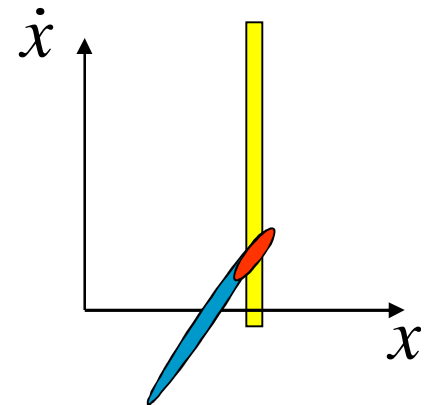
prediction



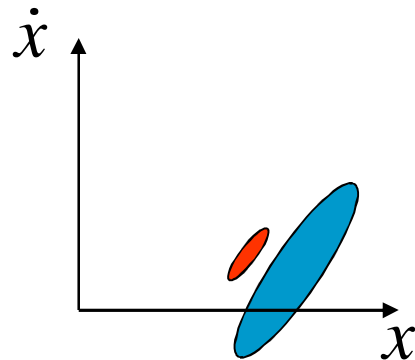
measurement



update



next prediction





Observability

- So even though velocity was not measured- it is observable:

$$O = \begin{pmatrix} C \\ CA \\ CA^2 \\ \vdots \\ CA^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

Theorem: (Observability Test): the linear time invariant system: $x_k = Ax_{k-1} + Bu_k + q_k$

$$z_k = Cx_k + r_k$$

is observable if and only if the observability matrix O is has rank n

From the last example: $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ Which means O is rank n

$$CA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \Delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \Delta t \end{pmatrix}$$



Proof of KF Filter

- The Proof is shown in “Probabilistic Robotics” by S. Thrun pg. 45-54.
- Note that Q and R are reversed in the book
- See “[Principles of Robot Motion: Theory, Algorithms, and Implementations](#)” by Howie Choset for a geometric derivation SS 8.2. (*will post this page*)
- See “Lecture notes on Mobile Robotics” Paul Newman. (*will post this as well*)
- We will now derive the KF using a property of Gaussians.



Kalman Filter: Prove the following

1. prediction step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k-1}) = \int p(x_k | x_{k-1}) p(x_{k-1} | z_{1:k-1}) dx_{k-1}$$

$$N(A_k x_{k-1} + B_k u_k, Q_k) \quad N(\mu_{k-1}, \Sigma_{k-1})$$

$$p(x | z_{1:k-1}) = N(A_k \mu_{k-1} + B_k u_k, A_k \Sigma_{k-1} A_k^T + Q_k)$$

2. update step:

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = \frac{1}{\eta} p(z_k | x_k) p(x_k | z_{1:k-1})$$

$$p(z_k | x_k) = N(C_k x_k, R_k)$$

$$N(\bar{\mu}_k, \bar{\Sigma}_k)$$

$$p(x_k | z_{1:k}) = N(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$$

$$\begin{cases} \mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t (z_t - C_t \bar{\mu}_t) \\ \Sigma_t = (I - K_t C_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t \end{cases} \quad \text{with} \quad K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t C_t^T (C_t \bar{\Sigma}_t C_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$$



Gaussian Marginal and Conditional Densities

See “Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning” C. Bishop SS 2.3 for a review of Gaussians.

Given a joint Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ with $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$ and

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_a \\ \mathbf{x}_b \end{pmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_a \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_b \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{aa} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ab} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ba} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{bb} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ab} \\ \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ba} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{bb} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Conditional distribution:

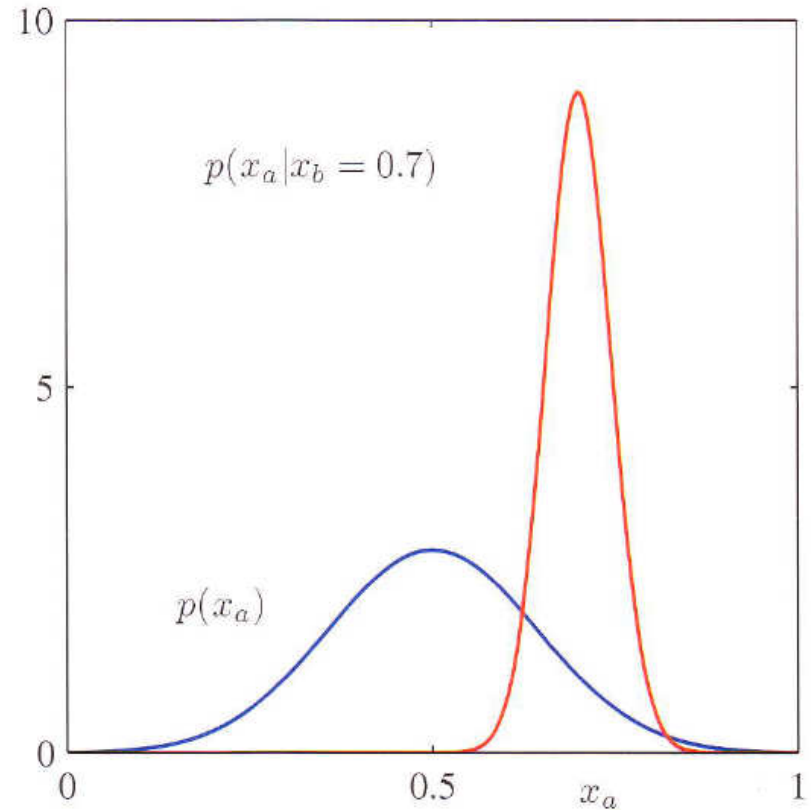
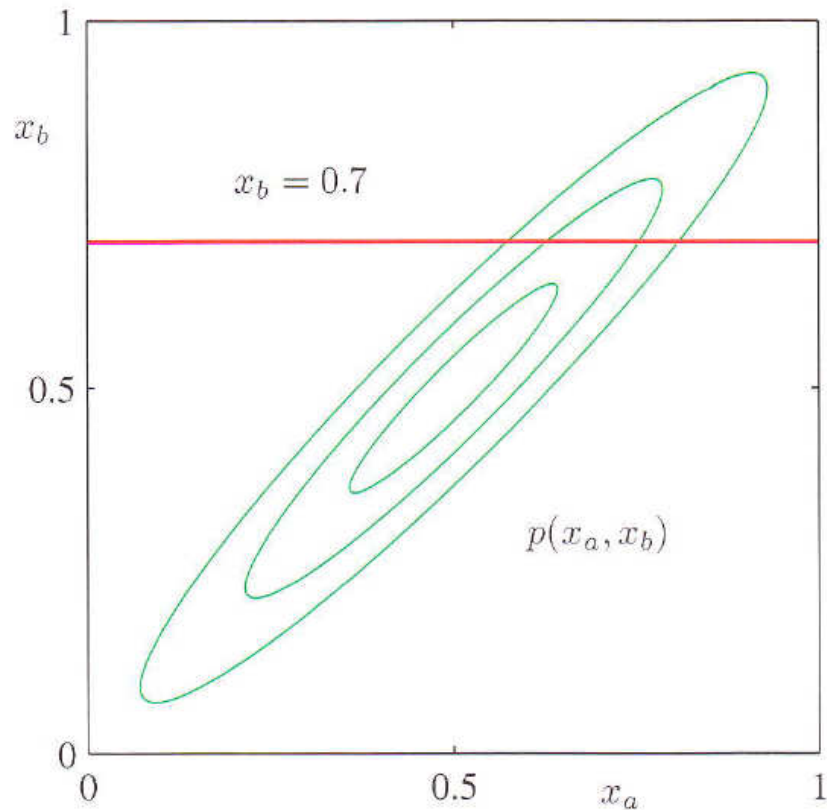
$$p(\mathbf{x}_a|\mathbf{x}_b) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{a|b}, \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa}^{-1})$$
$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{a|b} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_a - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ab}(\mathbf{x}_b - \boldsymbol{\mu}_b).$$

Marginal distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_a) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_a|\boldsymbol{\mu}_a, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{aa}).$$



Intuition about Marginal and Conditional



Marginal
$$p(x_a) = \int p(x_a, x_b) dx_b$$



Matrix Inversion Lemma & Matrix Derivatives

- Inversion Lemma

$$(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{UBV})^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{B}^{-1} + \mathbf{VA}^{-1}\mathbf{U})^{-1}\mathbf{VA}^{-1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} & \mathbf{C} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{UC}^{-1}\mathbf{V})^{-1} & -(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{UC}^{-1}\mathbf{V})^{-1}\mathbf{UC}^{-1} \\ -\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{UC}^{-1}\mathbf{V})^{-1} & \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{UC}^{-1}\mathbf{V})^{-1}\mathbf{UC}^{-1} + \mathbf{C}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Matrix Derivatives (see “matrix cookbook” for reference)

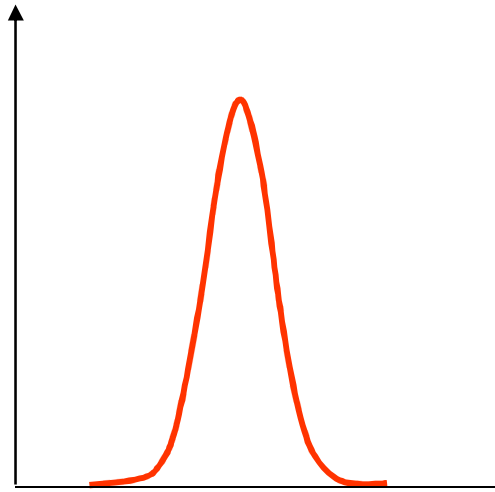
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{a}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{a} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{B}^T) \mathbf{x}$$

Assume \mathbf{W} is symmetric, then

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{s}} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{As})^T \mathbf{W} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{As}) = -2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{As})$$



Review: Gaussians



$$p(x) \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$$

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\det(2\pi\Sigma)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu) \right\}$$



Next Time

- What happens when the Linear State Space model breaks down?
- How can we do this for nonlinear models?