# Ensemble Kalman Filter

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#### Bayesian illustration



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# Bayesian approach

• Variables of interest  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . Prior  $p(\mathbf{x})$ .

• Data 
$$\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_N)$$
. Likelihood  $p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$ .

Common setting:

► Likelihood:  $p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$ , for instance  $p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) = \text{Normal}(\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{\Sigma}_e)$ 

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- Prior: p(x), for instance  $p(x) = \text{Normal}(\mu, \Sigma)$
- Posterior:  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) \propto p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{x})$

# Sequential data assimilation

- Structure data or variables in increasing order ('time').
- Update variables recursively moving through the order ('time').

Why do this?

 Structure natural for realistic modeling of variables over order ('time').

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- Data arrive sequentially, and we want on-line decisions.
- Split and conquer for handling large problems.

# Waveform inversion

- The objective is to predict (background) velocity distribution from raw seismic recordings.
- Use sequential updating (over shot data and receiver time).



Wavefield at time 400 msec.



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Wavefield at time 750 msec.

### Filter



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# Predict



#### Filter



# Predict



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#### Filter



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# Predict





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# Predict



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#### Prediction, filtering and smoothing

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_t) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t)}{p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_1)}$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_T), \quad p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_T)$$

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Exact closed-form solutions:

Markov models (Forward-backward algorithm)

Gaussian linear models (Kalman filter, smoother)
 Not so easy for other models...

#### Linear Gaussian model assumptions

Conditional independence in process (state) model:

$$p(\boldsymbol{x}_t | \boldsymbol{x}_{t-1}, \boldsymbol{y}_1, ..., \boldsymbol{y}_{t-1}) = N(\boldsymbol{F}_t \boldsymbol{x}_{t-1}, \boldsymbol{Q}_t)$$

Simplest setting (static model):  $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{x}_{t-1}$ 

Conditional independence in measurement model:

$$p(\boldsymbol{y}_t|\boldsymbol{y}_1,...,\boldsymbol{y}_{t-1},\boldsymbol{x}_t) = N(\boldsymbol{G}_t\boldsymbol{x}_t,\boldsymbol{R}_t)$$

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# Kalman filter

Elegant form for building the Gaussian distribution for prediction and filtering/analysis/assimilation:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{t-1}$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) = N(\mu_{t|t-1}, \mathbf{\Sigma}_{t|t-1})$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_t) \propto p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1}) p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t) = N(\mu_{t|t}, \mathbf{\Sigma}_{t|t})$$

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#### Kalman filter : Prediction step

With linear expectation and Gaussian additive noise, the models remain Gaussian. Need mean and covariance.  $\delta_t \sim N(0, \mathbf{R})$ 

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t|t-1} = \boldsymbol{E}(\boldsymbol{F}_t \boldsymbol{x}_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_t | \boldsymbol{y}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{y}_{t-1}) = \boldsymbol{F}_t \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t-1|t-1}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} = \mathsf{Var}(\boldsymbol{F}_t \boldsymbol{x}_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_t | \boldsymbol{y}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{y}_{t-1}) = \boldsymbol{F}_t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t-1|t-1} \boldsymbol{F}_t^{\mathsf{T}} + \boldsymbol{Q}_t$$

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#### Kalman filter update : Joint Gaussian

$$p(\boldsymbol{x}_t|\boldsymbol{y}_1,...,\boldsymbol{y}_t) \propto p(\boldsymbol{x}_t|\boldsymbol{y}_1,...,\boldsymbol{y}_{t-1})p(\boldsymbol{y}_t|\boldsymbol{x}_t) = N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t|t},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t})$$

The updating with data  $\boldsymbol{y}_t$  relies on this result for joint Gaussian variables:

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{x}_{A} \\ \mathbf{x}_{B} \end{array}\right) \sim N\left[\left(\begin{array}{c} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{B} \end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{c} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{A} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{A,B} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{B,A} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{B} \end{array}\right)\right]$$

 $[\mathbf{x}_A | \mathbf{x}_B] \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_A + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{A,B} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_B^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_B - \boldsymbol{\mu}_B), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_A - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{A,B} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_B^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{B,A})$ 

#### Kalman filter update : Joint Gaussian

 $p(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_1, ..., \mathbf{y}_{t-1})$  is joint Gaussian

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t \\ \mathbf{y}_t \end{pmatrix} | \mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{t-1} \sim N \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t|t-1} \\ \boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t|t-1} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} \boldsymbol{G}_t^T \\ \boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} & \boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} \boldsymbol{G}_t^T + \boldsymbol{R}_t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\boldsymbol{x}_t|\boldsymbol{y}_t,\boldsymbol{y}_{t-1},\ldots,\boldsymbol{y}_1] \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{t|t-1} + \boldsymbol{K}_t(\boldsymbol{y}_t - \boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{\mu}_{t|t-1}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} - \boldsymbol{K}_t \boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1})$$

$$\boldsymbol{K}_t = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} \boldsymbol{G}_t^T [\boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t|t-1} \boldsymbol{G}_t^T + \boldsymbol{R}_t]^{-1}$$

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## Traditional example

Gained popularity in space missions. Satellite control. Tracking planes and ships.



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## Traditional example



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Autoregressive space-time process:

$$\boldsymbol{x}_t = \phi \boldsymbol{x}_{t-1} + N(0, \boldsymbol{Q})$$

Measure at some or all locations:

$$\boldsymbol{y}_t = \boldsymbol{G}_t \boldsymbol{x}_t + N(0, \boldsymbol{R})$$



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#### AUV sampling of temperature data



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#### Predictions from dynamic exploration of ocean temperatures.



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#### Prediction variance from dynamic exploration of ocean temperatures.



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# Approximate algorithms

The Kalman filter is exact only under idealized conditions (linear, Gaussian assumptions).

Approximations must be used in more complex settings.

- common to use linearized, Gaussian approaches, ensemble-based methods or Markov chain Monte Carlo.

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## Approximate algorithms

Approximations ; pros and cons.

Criterion	EKF	UKF	EnKF	PF
Closed-form updating	V	V	V	
MC based			V	V
Non-linear	w	V	V	V
Scales with dim.	V		V	
Reliable UQ		V	W	V

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- focus on EnKF (ensemble-based) methods.

# Ensemble Kalman filter (EnKF)

- Monte Carlo based data assimilation
- Forecast using (non-linear) physical relations
- Assimilation based on **linear** update

(Evensen, 2009).



(Other approaches exist (exercise).)

#### Ensemble-based Kalman approximation

- Ensemble size *B*.
- ► Realizations  $\mathbf{x}^{b}$ , b = 1, ..., B from  $p(\mathbf{x}_{1}) = \text{Normal}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{1}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1})$ .
- Recursively assimilate data over 'time' t = 1, ..., T.
- Kalman update of bth ensemble member at step t

$$\boldsymbol{x}_t^b = \boldsymbol{x}_t^b + \hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t(\boldsymbol{y}_t - \boldsymbol{y}_t^b)$$

▶ 
$$y_t^b = g(x_t^b) + N(0, R_t).$$

► Kalman weight matrix  $\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}_t = \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{xy,t} \left( \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{yy,t} + \boldsymbol{R}_t \right)^{-1}$  determined empirically from forecast ensembles  $(\boldsymbol{x}_t^b, \boldsymbol{y}_t^b), b = 1, \dots, B$ .

# **EnKF** properties

Ensemble based approximation to filtering distribution.

- Exact for Gaussian linear systems when the ensemble size goes to infinity.
- Unclear how it performs for nonlinear systems (no mathematical results), but in practice ensemble-based KF versions are performing really well.

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## Univariate example - forecast samples

$$x^{b} \sim p(x), \quad y^{b} = x^{b} + N(0, 5^{2})$$



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## Univariate example - regression fit



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# Univariate example - observation y = 9.



5000

# Univariate example - analysis or update step



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#### Univariate example - prior and posterior



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## Geologic process models

Differential equation for sedimentation, corrected with data.

- Start with initial surface  $z_0^0$  at time  $t_0$
- Surface will "diffuse" to yield new top surface  $z_1^1$  at time  $t_1$
- Elevation of surface j at time  $t_k$  is  $z_j^k$  for j = 1, ..., k



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Sea level parameter - constant:  $heta(t)= heta_{0}, \ t_{\mathsf{start}}\leq t\leq t_{\mathsf{end}}$ 



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Seismic inversion

#### Elastic parameters

#### Measurements

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#### Propagating Wavefield

### Seismic - prior model



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#### Seismic - posterior model



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Exercise : Data



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# Exercise : Prior ensemble



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#### Exercise : Posterior ensemble



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