

Adaptive Gaussian nested filter for joint parameter and state estimation in state-space models

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Joint work with
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State-space model

We are interested in systems can be represented by **Markov state-space dynamical models**:

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{v}_t,$$

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{r}_t,$$

- \mathbf{f} , \mathbf{g} : state transition function and observation function
- \mathbf{v}_t , \mathbf{r}_t : state and observation noises

In terms of a set of **relevant probability density functions (pdfs)**:

- Prior pdfs: $\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ and $\mathbf{x}_0 \sim p(\mathbf{x}_0)$
- Transition pdf of the state: $\mathbf{x}_t \sim p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$
- Conditional pdf of the observation: $\mathbf{y}_t \sim p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta})$

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State estimation

Classical filtering methods:

Bayesian estimation of the state variables, $p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*)$, assuming $\boldsymbol{\theta}^*$ is known.

Every time step t :

1. Predictive distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) p(\mathbf{x}_{t-1} | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) d\mathbf{x}_{t-1} \quad (1)$$

2. Likelihood: $p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*)$
3. Posterior/filtering distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) \propto p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^*) \quad (2)$$

In practice, $\boldsymbol{\theta}^*$ is not known. It is needed to estimate both $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ and \mathbf{x}_t , i.e., $p(\mathbf{x}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{y}_{1:t})$.

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State-of-the-art methods

Methods for Bayesian inference of both θ and \mathbf{x}_t :

- **particle Markov chain Monte Carlo (PMCMC)**¹
- **sequential Monte Carlo square (SMC²)**²
 - They can **quantify the uncertainty** or estimation error,
 - they can be applied to a **broad class of models**,
 - they provide **theoretical guarantees**,
 - they are **batch techniques**.
 - The **computational cost becomes prohibitive** in high-dimensional problems.

Motivation: Reduction of the computational complexity.

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Model inference

We aim at computing the **joint posterior pdf** $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t})$, that can be written as

$$p(\mathbf{x}_t, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{y}_{1:t}) = \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}_t | \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}_{1:t})}_{2^{\text{nd}} \text{ layer}} \underbrace{p(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{y}_{1:t})}_{1^{\text{st}} \text{ layer}}$$

→ The **key difficulty** in this class of models is **the Bayesian estimation of the parameter vector $\boldsymbol{\theta}$** .

Model inference

At every time step t :

$$\underbrace{p(\theta | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1})}_{\text{Pred. pdf of } \theta}$$

1st layer

Filtering (given θ)

$$\underbrace{p(x_t | \theta, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1})}_{\text{Pred. pdf of } x}$$

$$p(y_t | x_t, \theta)$$

$$\underbrace{p(x_t | \theta, \mathbf{y}_{1:t})}_{\text{Post. pdf of } x}$$

2nd layer

$$p(y_t | \theta, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1})$$

$$\underbrace{p(\theta | \mathbf{y}_{1:t})}_{\text{Post. pdf of } \theta} \propto p(y_t | \theta, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}) p(\theta | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1})$$

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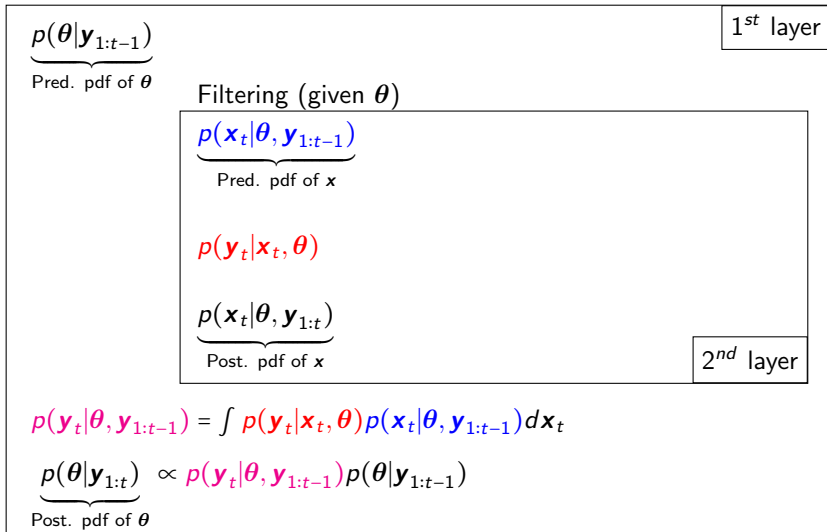
2nd layer

$$p(y_t | \theta, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}) = \int p(y_t | x_t, \theta) p(x_t | \theta, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}) dx_t$$

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$$p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{x}_t, \theta)$$

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Naive importance sampling approximation

Initialisation: Draw $\{\theta^i\}_{i=1}^{N_\theta}$ from $p(\theta)$

At $t \geq 1$ and for every $\theta^i, i = 1, \dots, N_\theta$:

SMC (N_θ samples)
to approximate $p(\theta | \mathbf{y}_{1:t})$

For $j = 1, \dots, N_x$:

SMC (N_x samples)
to approximate $p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \theta^i)$

- Draw $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,j} \sim p(\mathbf{x}_t | \theta^i, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1})$

- Weights: $\tilde{u}_t^{i,j} \propto p(\mathbf{y}_t | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,j}, \theta^i)$

- Resampling: for $m = 1, \dots, N_x$, $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,j} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,m}$
with prob. $u_t^{i,m} = \frac{\tilde{u}_t^{i,m}}{\sum_{j=1}^{N_x} \tilde{u}_t^{i,j}}$

- Likelihood of θ^i : $\tilde{w}_t^i = w_{t-1}^i \left(\frac{1}{N_x} \sum_{j=1}^{N_x} \tilde{u}_t^{i,j} \right)$

- Then, $p(\theta | \mathbf{y}_{1:t}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_\theta} w_t^i \delta_{\theta^i}(d\theta)$, with $w_t^i = \frac{\tilde{w}_t^i}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_\theta} \tilde{w}_t^i}$.

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After several time steps the filter degenerates.

Nested particle filter (NPF)³For $i = 1, \dots, N_\theta$:

- **Jittering**: Draw $\bar{\theta}_t^i \sim \kappa_{N_\theta}(\theta | d\theta_{t-1}^i)$

SMC (N_θ samples)
to approximate $p(\theta | \mathbf{y}_{1:t})$ Given $\bar{\theta}_t^i$, for $j = 1, \dots, N_x$:

- Draw $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,j} \sim p(\mathbf{x}_t | \bar{\theta}_t^i, \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1})$
- Weights: $\tilde{u}_t^{i,j} \propto p(\mathbf{y}_t | \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,j}, \bar{\theta}_t^i)$
- Resampling: for $m = 1, \dots, N_x$, $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,j} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t^{i,m}$
with prob. $u_t^{i,m} = \frac{\tilde{u}_t^{i,m}}{\sum_{j=1}^{N_x} \tilde{u}_t^{i,j}}$

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Nested particle filter (NPF)³For $i = 1, \dots, N_\theta$:

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High computational complexity: $N_\theta \times N_x$ samples.

Family of nested filters

1. Nested particle filters (NPFs)⁴.

- Both layers → Sequential Monte Carlo (SMC) methods

2. Nested hybrid filters (NHF)⁵.

- θ -layer → Monte Carlo-based methods (e.g., SMC or SQMC)
- x -layer → Gaussian techniques (e.g., EKFs or EnKFs)

3. Nested Gaussian filters (NGFs)⁶.

- θ -layer → Deterministic sampling methods (e.g., UKF).
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Adapting N_θ

Problem: Great amount of samples ($N_\theta \times N_x$) and **waste of computational effort** when they are not well chosen.

Objective: efficient allocation of computational resources

Approach: reducing automatically the number of samples, N_θ , when the performance is no longer compromised.

We studied the case for a nested Gaussian filter that implements:

- Quadrature Kalman filter (QKF) in the θ -layer, with $N_\theta = \alpha^{d_\theta}$, $\alpha > 1$.
- Extended Kalman filters (EKFs) in the x -layer.

The hyperparameter α will depend on t , so the number of samples is now defined as $N_{\theta,t} = \alpha_t^{d_\theta}$.

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Adaptive reduction rule

In order to decide **when to reduce** $N_{\theta,t}$, we use

$$\rho_t = \frac{1}{\sum_{n=1}^{N_{\theta,t}} (\bar{s}_t^n)^2} \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{s}_t^n = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^n)}{\sum_{n=1}^{N_{\theta,t}} p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^n)}$$

The statistic takes

- its **minimum value in** $\rho_t = 1$, which occurs when **only one** $p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^n)$, for $n = 1, \dots, N_{\theta,t}$, is **different from zero**; and
- its **maximum value in** $\rho_t = N_{\theta,t}$, when for **all** $n = 1, \dots, N_{\theta,t}$, the evaluations $p(\mathbf{y}_t | \mathbf{y}_{1:t-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_t^n)$ **are equal**.

The adaptive reduction rule:

- If $\frac{\rho_t}{N_{\theta,t}} > 1 - \epsilon$ (ρ_t is close to its maximum value),

$$N_{\theta,t+1} = (\alpha_t - 1)^{d_\theta} < N_{\theta,t}, \text{ with } N_{\theta,t+1} > N_{\min}.$$
- Otherwise, $N_{\theta,t+1} = N_{\theta,t}$.

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The Lorenz 63 model

- Applying a discretization method with step Δ , we obtain

$$x_{1,t+1} = x_{1,t} - \Delta S(x_{1,t} - x_{2,t}) + \sqrt{\Delta} \sigma v_{1,t},$$

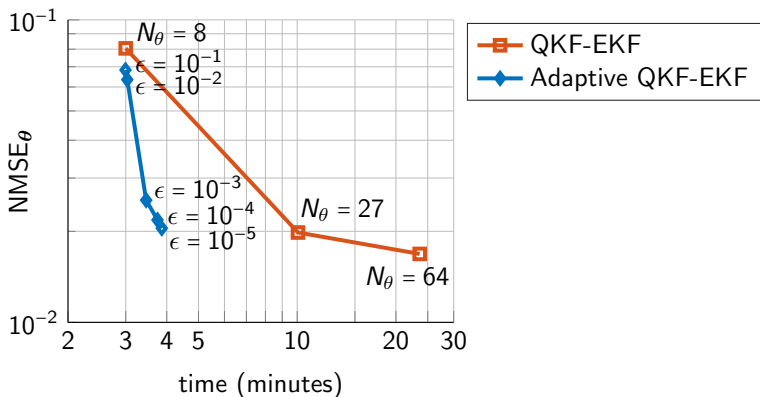
$$x_{2,t+1} = x_{2,t} + \Delta [(R - x_{3,t})x_{1,t} - x_{2,t}] + \sqrt{\Delta} \sigma v_{2,t},$$

$$x_{3,t+1} = x_{3,t} + \Delta (x_{1,t}x_{2,t} - Bx_{3,t}) + \sqrt{\Delta} \sigma v_{3,t},$$

- We assume linear observations of the form

$$\mathbf{y}_t = k_o \begin{bmatrix} x_{1,t} \\ x_{3,t} \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{r}_t,$$

where k_o is a fixed known parameter and $\mathbf{r}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{r}_t | \mathbf{0}, \sigma_y^2 \mathbf{I}_2)$.

Numerical results⁷

1. **QKF-EKF** for different fixed $N_{\theta} = \{8, 27, 64\}$.
2. **Adaptive QKF-EKF** with $N_{\theta,1} = 64$.

Conclusions

1. The nested methodology is **online and flexible**. It admits different types of filtering techniques in each layer, leading to a **set of algorithms**.
2. When **two learning tasks** take place, it is important to have a **good allocation of computational resources** so that performance is improved.
3. First adaptive rule for N_θ , that provides an **automatic reduction of the computational complexity** for any given performance.

Thank you!

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