

Computer Vision 2
WS 2018/19

Part 8 – Beyond Kalman Filters
 13.11.2018

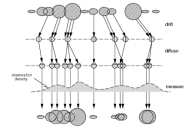
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<http://www.vision.rwth-aachen.de>



Course Outline

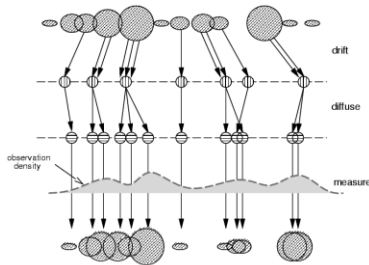
- Single-Object Tracking
- Bayesian Filtering
 - Kalman Filters, EKF
 - Particle Filters
- Multi-Object Tracking
- Visual Odometry
- Visual SLAM & 3D Reconstruction
- Deep Learning for Video Analysis



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Today: Beyond Gaussian Error Models



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Figure from Isard & Blake

Topics of This Lecture

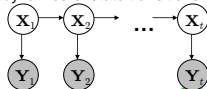
- **Recap: Kalman Filter**
 - Basic ideas
 - Kalman filter for 1D state
 - General Kalman filter
 - Limitations
 - Extensions
- **Particle Filters**
 - Basic ideas
 - Propagation of general densities
 - Factored sampling

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Recap: Tracking as Inference

- **Inference problem**
 - The hidden state consists of the true parameters we care about, denoted X_t .
 - The measurement is our noisy observation that results from the underlying state, denoted Y_t .
 - At each time step, state changes (from X_{t-1} to X_t) and we get a new observation Y_t .
- **Our goal: recover most likely state X_t , given**
 - All observations seen so far.
 - Knowledge about dynamics of state transitions.



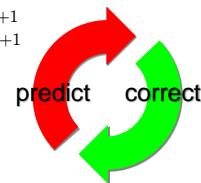
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Recap: Tracking as Induction

- **Base case:**
 - Assume we have initial prior that predicts state in absence of any evidence: $P(X_0)$
 - At the first frame, *correct* this given the value of $Y_0=y_0$.
- **Given corrected estimate for frame t :**
 - Predict for frame $t+1$
 - Correct for frame $t+1$



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Recap: Prediction and Correction

- Prediction:

$$P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1}) = \int P(X_t | X_{t-1}) P(X_{t-1} | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1}) dX_{t-1}$$

Dynamics model
Corrected estimate from previous step
- Correction:

$$P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_t) = \frac{P(y_t | X_t) P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1})}{\int P(y_t | X_t) P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1}) dX_t}$$

Observation model
Predicted estimate

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Recap: Linear Dynamic Models

- Dynamics model
 - State undergoes linear transformation D_t plus Gaussian noise
$$x_t \sim N(D_t x_{t-1}, \Sigma_{d_t})$$
- Observation model
 - Measurement is linearly transformed state plus Gaussian noise
$$y_t \sim N(M_t x_t, \Sigma_{m_t})$$

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Example: Constant Velocity (1D Points)

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Figure from Forsyth & Ponce

Example: Constant Velocity (1D Points)

- State vector: position p and velocity v

$$x_t = \begin{bmatrix} p_t \\ v_t \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} p_t = \\ v_t = \end{matrix}$$

(greek letters denote noise terms)

$$x_t = D_t x_{t-1} + noise =$$
- Measurement is position only

$$y_t = M x_t + noise =$$

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Example: Constant Velocity (1D Points)

- State vector: position p and velocity v

$$x_t = \begin{bmatrix} p_t \\ v_t \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} p_t = p_{t-1} + (\Delta t)v_{t-1} + \varepsilon \\ v_t = v_{t-1} + \zeta \end{matrix}$$

(greek letters denote noise terms)

$$x_t = D_t x_{t-1} + noise = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Delta t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_{t-1} \\ v_{t-1} \end{bmatrix} + noise$$
- Measurement is position only

$$y_t = M x_t + noise = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_t \\ v_t \end{bmatrix} + noise$$

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Example: Constant Acceleration (1D Points)

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Figure from Forsyth & Ponce

Example: Constant Acceleration (1D Points)

- State vector: position p , velocity v , and acceleration a .

$$x_t = \begin{bmatrix} p_t \\ v_t \\ a_t \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} p_t &= p_{t-1} + (\Delta t)v_{t-1} + \frac{1}{2}(\Delta t)^2 a_{t-1} + \varepsilon \\ v_t &= v_{t-1} + (\Delta t)a_{t-1} + \xi \\ a_t &= a_{t-1} + \zeta \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(greek letters} \\ \text{denote noise} \\ \text{terms)} \end{array}$$

$$x_t = D_t x_{t-1} + \text{noise} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Delta t & \frac{1}{2}(\Delta t)^2 \\ 0 & 1 & \Delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_{t-1} \\ v_{t-1} \\ a_{t-1} \end{bmatrix} + \text{noise}$$

- Measurement is position only

$$y_t = M x_t + \text{noise} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_t \\ v_t \\ a_t \end{bmatrix} + \text{noise}$$

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General Motion Models

- Assuming we have differential equations for the motion
- E.g. for (undamped) periodic motion of a linear spring
$$\frac{d^2 p}{dt^2} = -p$$
- Substitute variables to transform this into linear system
$$p_1 = p \quad p_2 = \frac{dp}{dt} \quad p_3 = \frac{d^2 p}{dt^2}$$
- Then we have
$$x_t = \begin{bmatrix} p_{1,t} \\ p_{2,t} \\ p_{3,t} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} p_{1,t} &= p_{1,t-1} + (\Delta t)p_{2,t-1} + \frac{1}{2}(\Delta t)^2 p_{3,t-1} + \varepsilon \\ p_{2,t} &= p_{2,t-1} + (\Delta t)p_{3,t-1} + \xi \\ p_{3,t} &= -p_{1,t-1} + \zeta \end{aligned} \quad D_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Delta t & \frac{1}{2}(\Delta t)^2 \\ 0 & 1 & \Delta t \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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The Kalman Filter

- Kalman filter
- Method for tracking linear dynamical models in Gaussian noise
- The predicted/corrected state distributions are Gaussian
- You only need to maintain the mean and covariance.
- The calculations are easy (all the integrals can be done in closed form).

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The Kalman Filter

Know corrected state from previous time step, and all measurements up to the current one
→ Predict distribution over next state.

Receive measurement
Know prediction of state, and next measurement
→ Update distribution over current state.

Time update ("Predict")
Measurement update ("Correct")

Time advances: $t++$

Mean and std. dev. of predicted state:
 μ_t^-, σ_t^-

Mean and std. dev. of corrected state:
 μ_t^+, σ_t^+

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Kalman Filter for 1D State

- Want to represent and update

$$P(x_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1}) = N(\mu_t^-, (\sigma_t^-)^2)$$

$$P(x_t | y_0, \dots, y_t) = N(\mu_t^+, (\sigma_t^+)^2)$$

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Propagation of Gaussian densities

deterministic drift
Shifting the mean

stochastic diffusion
Increasing the variance

Bayesian update
reactive effect of measurement

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1D Kalman Filter: Prediction

- Have linear dynamic model defining predicted state evolution, with noise

$$X_t \sim N(dx_{t-1}, \sigma_d^2)$$
- Want to estimate predicted distribution for next state

$$P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1}) = N(\mu_t^-, (\sigma_t^-)^2)$$
- Update the mean:

$$\mu_t^- = d\mu_{t-1}^+$$

for derivations, see F&P Chapter 17.3
- Update the variance:

$$(\sigma_t^-)^2 = \sigma_d^2 + (d\sigma_{t-1}^+)^2$$

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1D Kalman Filter: Correction

- Have linear model defining the mapping of state to measurements:

$$Y_t \sim N(mx_t, \sigma_m^2)$$
- Want to estimate corrected distribution given latest measurement:

$$P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_t) = N(\mu_t^+, (\sigma_t^+)^2)$$
- Update the mean:

$$\mu_t^+ = \frac{\mu_t^- \sigma_m^2 + m y_t (\sigma_t^-)^2}{\sigma_m^2 + m^2 (\sigma_t^-)^2}$$
- Update the variance:

$$(\sigma_t^+)^2 = \frac{\sigma_m^2 (\sigma_t^-)^2}{\sigma_m^2 + m^2 (\sigma_t^-)^2}$$

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Prediction vs. Correction

$$\mu_t^+ = \frac{\mu_t^- \sigma_m^2 + m y_t (\sigma_t^-)^2}{\sigma_m^2 + m^2 (\sigma_t^-)^2} \quad (\sigma_t^+)^2 = \frac{\sigma_m^2 (\sigma_t^-)^2}{\sigma_m^2 + m^2 (\sigma_t^-)^2}$$

- What if there is no prediction uncertainty ($\sigma_t^- = 0$)?

$$\mu_t^+ = \mu_t^- \quad (\sigma_t^+)^2 = 0$$

The measurement is ignored!
- What if there is no measurement uncertainty ($\sigma_m = 0$)?

$$\mu_t^+ = \frac{y_t}{m} \quad (\sigma_t^+)^2 = 0$$

The prediction is ignored!

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Recall: Constant Velocity Example

State is 2D: position + velocity
Measurement is 1D: position

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Constant Velocity Model

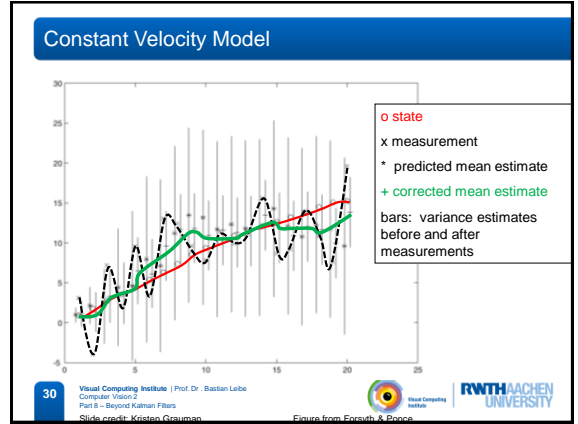
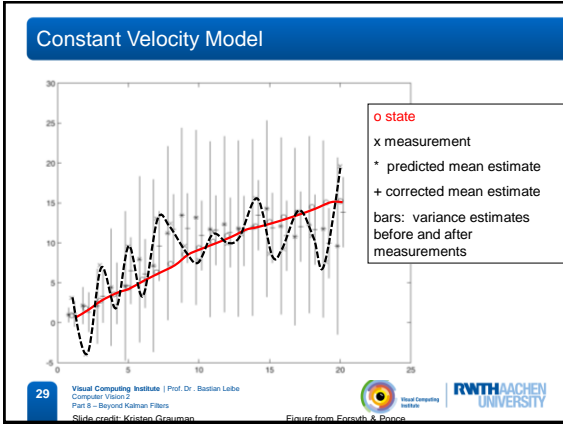
o state
x measurement
* predicted mean estimate
+ corrected mean estimate
bars: variance estimates before and after measurements

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Constant Velocity Model

o state
x measurement
* predicted mean estimate
+ corrected mean estimate
bars: variance estimates before and after measurements

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Kalman Filter: General Case (>1dim)

PREDICT

$$x_t^- = D_t x_{t-1}^+$$

$$\Sigma_t^- = D_t \Sigma_{t-1}^+ D_t^T + \Sigma_{d,t}$$

CORRECT

$$K_t = \Sigma_t^- M_t^T (M_t \Sigma_t^- M_t^T + \Sigma_{m,t})^{-1}$$

$$x_t^+ = x_t^- + K_t (y_t - M_t x_t^-)$$

"residual"
"Kalman gain"

$$\Sigma_t^+ = (I - K_t M_t) \Sigma_t^-$$

More weight on residual when measurement error covariance approaches 0.
 Less weight on residual as a priori estimate error covariance approaches 0.

for derivations, see F&P Chapter 17.3

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Summary: Kalman Filter

- Pros:**
 - Gaussian densities everywhere
 - Simple updates, compact and efficient
 - Very established method, very well understood
- Cons:**
 - Unimodal distribution, only single hypothesis
 - Restricted class of motions defined by linear model

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 Slide adapted from Suetlana Lazebnik

Remarks

- Try it!
 - Not too hard to understand or program
- Start simple
 - Experiment in 1D
 - Make your own filter in Matlab, etc.
- Note: the Kalman filter "wants to work"
 - Debugging can be difficult
 - Errors can go un-noticed

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 Slide adapted from Greg Welch

Topics of This Lecture

- Recap: Kalman Filter
 - Basic ideas
 - Kalman filter for 1D state
 - General Kalman filter
 - Limitations
 - Extensions
- Particle Filters
 - Basic ideas
 - Propagation of general densities
 - Factored sampling

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Extension: Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)

- **Basic idea**
 - State transition and observation model don't need to be linear functions of the state, but just need to be differentiable.
 - $x_t = g(x_{t-1}, u_t) + \varepsilon$
 - $y_t = h(x_t) + \delta$
 - The EKF essentially linearizes the nonlinearity around the current estimate by a Taylor expansion.
- **Properties**
 - Unlike the linear KF, the EKF is in general *not* an optimal estimator.
 - If the initial estimate is wrong, the filter may quickly diverge.
 - Still, it's the de-facto standard in many applications
 - Including navigation systems and GPS

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Recap: Kalman Filter – Detailed Algorithm

- **Algorithm summary**
 - Assumption: linear model
 - $x_t = D_t x_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$
 - $y_t = M_t x_t + \delta_t$
 - Prediction step
 - $x_t^- = D_t x_{t-1}^+$
 - $\Sigma_t^- = D_t \Sigma_{t-1}^+ D_t^T + \Sigma_{d_t}$
 - Correction step
 - $K_t = \Sigma_t^- M_t^T (M_t \Sigma_t^- M_t^T + \Sigma_{m_t})^{-1}$
 - $x_t^+ = x_t^- + K_t (y_t - M_t x_t^-)$
 - $\Sigma_t^+ = (I - K_t M_t) \Sigma_t^-$

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Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)

- **Algorithm summary**
 - Nonlinear model
 - $x_t = g(x_{t-1}) + \varepsilon_t$
 - $y_t = h(x_t) + \delta_t$ with the Jacobians
 - Prediction step
 - $x_t^- = g(x_{t-1}^+)$
 - $\Sigma_t^- = G_t \Sigma_{t-1}^+ G_t^T + \Sigma_{d_t}$ $G_t = \frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_t^-}$
 - Correction step
 - $K_t = \Sigma_t^- H_t^T (H_t \Sigma_t^- H_t^T + \Sigma_{m_t})^{-1}$ $H_t = \frac{\partial h(x)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_t^-}$
 - $x_t^+ = x_t^- + K_t (y_t - h(x_t^-))$
 - $\Sigma_t^+ = (I - K_t H_t) \Sigma_t^-$

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Kalman Filter – Other Extensions

- **Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF)**
 - Used for models with highly nonlinear predict and update functions.
 - Here, the EKF can give very poor performance, since the covariance is propagated through linearization of the non-linear model.
 - Idea (UKF): Propagate just a few sample points ("sigma points") around the mean exactly, then recover the covariance from them.
 - More accurate results than the EKF's Taylor expansion approximation.
- **Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF)**
 - Represents the distribution of the system state using a collection (an *ensemble*) of state vectors.
 - Replace covariance matrix by *sample covariance* from ensemble.
 - Still basic assumption that all prob. distributions involved are Gaussian.
 - EnKFs are especially suitable for problems with a large number of variables.

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Even More Extensions

Switching linear dynamical system (SLDS):

$$z_t \sim \pi_{z_{t-1}}$$

$$x_t = A^{(z_t)} x_{t-1} + e_t(z_t)$$

$$y_t = C x_t + w_t$$

$$e_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma^{(z_t)}) \quad w_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, R)$$

- **Switching Linear Dynamic System (SLDS)**
 - Use a set of k dynamic models $A^{(1)}, \dots, A^{(k)}$, each of which describes a different dynamic behavior.
 - Hidden variable z_t determines which model is active at time t .
 - A switching process can change z_t according to distribution $\pi_{z_{t-1}}$

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Topics of This Lecture

- **Recap: Kalman Filter**
 - Basic ideas
 - Kalman filter for 1D state
 - General Kalman filter
 - Limitations
 - Extensions
- **Particle Filters**
 - Basic ideas
 - Propagation of general densities
 - Factored sampling

Today: only main ideas

Formal introduction next lecture

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When Is A Single Hypothesis Too Limiting?

Initial position

Prediction

Measurement

Update

• Consider this example: say we are tracking the face on the right using a skin color blob to get our measurement.

Video from Jui-C & Frey

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Propagation of General Densities

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Figure from Isard & Blake

Factored Sampling

• Idea: Represent state distribution non-parametrically

- Prediction: Sample points from prior density for the state, $P(X)$
- Correction: Weight the samples according to $P(Y|X)$

$$P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_t) = \frac{P(y_t | X_t)P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1})}{\int P(y_t | X_t)P(X_t | y_0, \dots, y_{t-1})dX_t}$$

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Particle Filtering

• (Also known as Sequential Monte Carlo Methods)

• Idea

- We want to use sampling to propagate densities over time (i.e., across frames in a video sequence).
- At each time step, represent posterior $P(X_t | Y_t)$ with weighted sample set.
- Previous time step's sample set $P(X_{t-1} | Y_{t-1})$ is passed to next time step as the effective prior.

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Particle Filtering

• Many variations, one general concept:

- Represent the posterior pdf by a set of randomly chosen weighted samples (particles)

- Randomly Chosen = Monte Carlo (MC)
- As the number of samples become very large - the characterization becomes an equivalent representation of the true pdf.

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Slide adapted from Michael Rubinstein

Particle Filtering

Start with weighted samples from previous time step

drift
Sample and shift according to dynamics model

diffuse
Spread due to randomness; this is predicted density $P(X_t | Y_{t-1})$


measure
Weight the samples according to observation density

Arrive at corrected density estimate $P(X_t | Y_t)$

M. Isard and A. Blake, *CONDENSATION -- conditional density propagation for visual tracking*, IJCV 29(1):5-28, 1998

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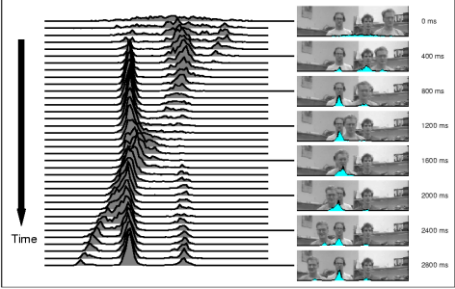
Particle Filtering – Visualization



Code and video available from <http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~misard/condensation.html>

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Particle Filtering Results




<http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~misard/condensation.html>

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Particle Filtering Results

- Some more examples



<http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~misard/condensation.html>

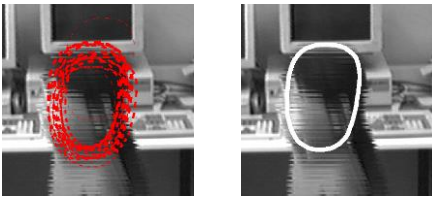
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Obtaining a State Estimate

- Note that there's no explicit state estimate maintained, just a "cloud" of particles
- Can obtain an estimate at a particular time by querying the current particle set
- Some approaches
 - "Mean" particle
 - Weighted sum of particles
 - Confidence: inverse variance
 - Really want a mode finder—mean of tallest peak

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Condensation: Estimating Target State



State samples (thickness proportional to weight)

Mean of weighted state samples

From Isard & Blake, 1998

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Summary: Particle Filtering

- Pros:**
 - Able to represent arbitrary densities
 - Converging to true posterior even for non-Gaussian and nonlinear system
 - Efficient: particles tend to focus on regions with high probability
 - Works with many different state spaces
 - E.g. articulated tracking in complicated joint angle spaces
 - Many extensions available

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Summary: Particle Filtering

- Cons / Caveats:

- #Particles is important performance factor
 - Want as few particles as possible for efficiency.
 - But need to cover state space sufficiently well.
- Worst-case complexity grows exponentially in the dimensions
- Multimodal densities possible, but still single object
 - Interactions between multiple objects require special treatment.
 - Not handled well in the particle filtering framework (state space explosion).

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References and Further Reading

- A good tutorial on Particle Filters

- M.S. Arulampalam, S. Maskell, N. Gordon, T. Clapp. [A Tutorial on Particle Filters for Online Nonlinear/Non-Gaussian Bayesian Tracking](#). In *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, Vol. 50(2), pp. 174-188, 2002.

- The CONDENSATION paper

- M. Isard and A. Blake, [CONDENSATION - conditional density propagation for visual tracking](#), IJCV 29(1):5-28, 1998

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