

Lecture 5: Unscented Kalman filter and General Gaussian Filtering

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Linearization Based Gaussian Approximation

- Problem: Determine the **mean and covariance** of y :

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$y = \sin(x)$$

- **Linearization** based approximation:

$$y = \sin(\mu) + \frac{\partial \sin(\mu)}{\partial \mu}(x - \mu) + \dots$$

which gives

$$E[y] \approx E[\sin(\mu) + \cos(\mu)(x - \mu)] = \sin(\mu)$$

$$\text{Cov}[y] \approx E[(\sin(\mu) + \cos(\mu)(x - \mu) - \sin(\mu))^2] = \cos^2(\mu) \sigma^2.$$

- Form 3 **sigma points** as follows:

$$X_0 = \mu$$

$$X_1 = \mu + \sigma$$

$$X_2 = \mu - \sigma.$$

- We may now select some **weights** W_0, W_1, W_2 such that the **original mean and (co)variance** can be always **recovered** by

$$\mu = \sum_i W_i X_i$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_i W_i (X_i - \mu)^2.$$

Principle of Unscented Transform [2/3]

- Use the same formula for approximating the distribution of $y = \sin(x)$ as follows:

$$\mu_y = \sum_i W_i \sin(X_i)$$

$$\sigma_y^2 = \sum_i W_i (\sin(X_i) - \mu_y)^2.$$

- For vectors $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P})$ the generalization of standard deviation σ is the Cholesky factor $\mathbf{L} = \sqrt{\mathbf{P}}$:

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T.$$

- The sigma points can be formed using columns of \mathbf{L} (here c is a suitable positive constant):

$$\mathbf{X}_0 = \mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_j = \mathbf{m} + c\mathbf{L}_j$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{n+j} = \mathbf{m} - c\mathbf{L}_j$$

- For **transformation** $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$ the approximation is:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_y = \sum_i W_i \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y = \sum_i W_i (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_y) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_y)^T.$$

- **Joint distribution** of \mathbf{x} and $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{q}$ is then given as

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{q} \end{pmatrix} \mid \mathbf{q} \right] \approx \sum_i W_i \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_i \\ \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Cov} \left[\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{q} \end{pmatrix} \mid \mathbf{q} \right] \\ & \approx \sum_i W_i \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{m})^T & (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_y)^T \\ (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_y) (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{m})^T & (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_y) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_y)^T \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Unscented Transform Approximation of Non-Linear Transforms [1/3]

Unscented transform

The unscented transform approximation to the joint distribution of \mathbf{x} and $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{q}$ where $\mathbf{x} \sim N(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P})$ and $\mathbf{q} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{Q})$ is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left(\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} \\ \mu_U \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{C}_U \\ \mathbf{C}_U^T & \mathbf{S}_U \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

The sub-matrices are formed as follows:

- 1 Form the matrix of sigma points \mathbf{X} as

$$\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{m} \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{m}] + \sqrt{n + \lambda} [0 \quad \sqrt{\mathbf{P}} \quad -\sqrt{\mathbf{P}}],$$

[continues in the next slide...]

Unscented Transform Approximation of Non-Linear Transforms [2/3]

Unscented transform (cont.)

- 2 Propagate the sigma points through $\mathbf{g}(\cdot)$:

$$\mathbf{Y}_i = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}_i), \quad i = 1 \dots 2n + 1,$$

- 3 The sub-matrices are then given as:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_U = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(m)} \mathbf{Y}_i$$

$$\mathbf{S}_U = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_U) (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_U)^T + \mathbf{Q}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_U = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{Y}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_U)^T,$$

Unscented Transform Approximation of Non-Linear Transforms [3/3]

Unscented transform (cont.)

- λ is a scaling parameter defined as $\lambda = \alpha^2 (n + \kappa) - n$.
- α and κ determine the spread of the sigma points.
- Weights $W_i^{(m)}$ and $W_i^{(c)}$ are given as follows:

$$W_0^{(m)} = \lambda / (n + \lambda)$$

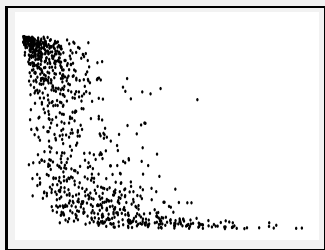
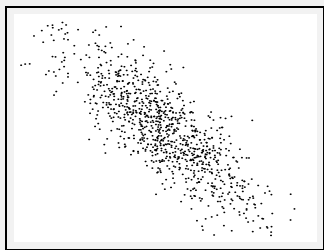
$$W_0^{(c)} = \lambda / (n + \lambda) + (1 - \alpha^2 + \beta)$$

$$W_i^{(m)} = 1 / \{2(n + \lambda)\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 2n$$

$$W_i^{(c)} = 1 / \{2(n + \lambda)\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, 2n,$$

- β can be used for incorporating prior information on the (non-Gaussian) distribution of \mathbf{x} .

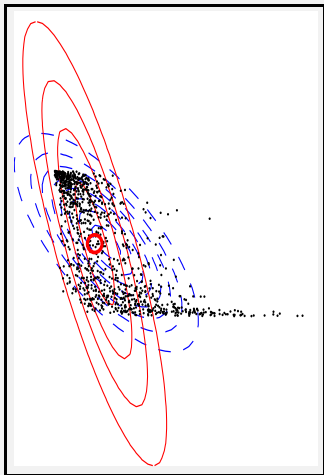
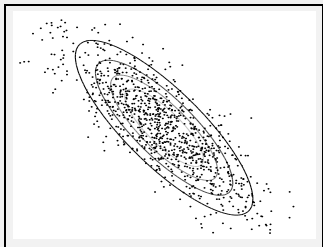
Linearization/UT Example



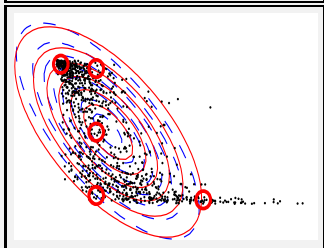
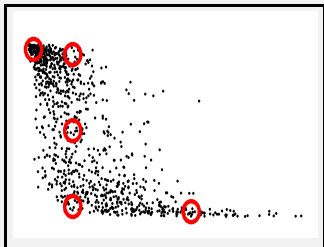
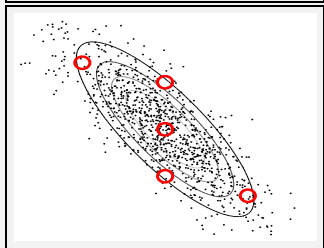
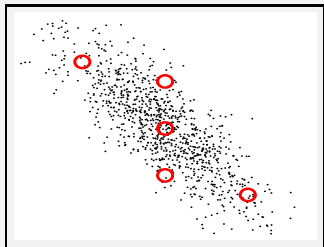
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy_1}{dt} &= \exp(-y_1), & y_1(0) &= x_1 \\ \frac{dy_2}{dt} &= -\frac{1}{2}y_2^3, & y_2(0) &= x_2 \end{aligned}$$

Linearization Approximation



UT Approximation



Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF): Derivation [1/4]

- Assume that the **filtering distribution** of previous step is **Gaussian**

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{y}_{1:k-1}) \approx \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{m}_{k-1}, \mathbf{P}_{k-1})$$

- The **joint distribution** of \mathbf{x}_{k-1} and $\mathbf{x}_k = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) + \mathbf{q}_{k-1}$ can be **approximated** with UT as Gaussian

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}, \mathbf{x}_k, | \mathbf{y}_{1:k-1}) \approx \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{k-1} \\ \mathbf{x}_k \end{bmatrix} \mid \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{m}'_1 \\ \mathbf{m}'_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P}'_{11} & \mathbf{P}'_{12} \\ (\mathbf{P}'_{12})^T & \mathbf{P}'_{22} \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

- Form the **sigma points** \mathbf{X}_i of $\mathbf{x}_{k-1} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}_{k-1}, \mathbf{P}_{k-1})$ and compute the **transformed sigma points** as $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_i = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}_i)$.
- The **expected values** can now be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{m}'_1 = \mathbf{m}_{k-1}$$

$$\mathbf{m}'_2 = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(m)} \hat{\mathbf{X}}_i$$

- The **blocks of covariance** can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{P}'_{11} = \mathbf{P}_{k-1}$$

$$\mathbf{P}'_{12} = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{m}_{k-1}) (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_i - \mathbf{m}'_2)^T$$

$$\mathbf{P}'_{22} = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_i - \mathbf{m}'_2) (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_i - \mathbf{m}'_2)^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}$$

- The **prediction mean and covariance** of \mathbf{x}_k are then \mathbf{m}'_2 and \mathbf{P}'_{22} , and thus we get

$$\mathbf{m}_k^- = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(m)} \hat{\mathbf{X}}_i$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k^- = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_i - \mathbf{m}_k^-) (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_i - \mathbf{m}_k^-)^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}$$

Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF): Derivation [3/4]

- For the **joint distribution** of \mathbf{x}_k and $\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_k) + \mathbf{r}_k$ we similarly get

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{y}_k, | \mathbf{y}_{1:k-1}) \approx N \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_k \\ \mathbf{y}_k \end{bmatrix} \mid \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{m}_1'' \\ \mathbf{m}_2'' \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P}_{11}'' & \mathbf{P}_{12}'' \\ (\mathbf{P}_{12}'')^T & \mathbf{P}_{22}'' \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

- If \mathbf{X}_i^- are the **sigma points** of $\mathbf{x}_k \sim N(\mathbf{m}_k^-, \mathbf{P}_k^-)$ and $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_i = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}_i^-)$, we get:

$$\mathbf{m}_1'' = \mathbf{m}_k^-$$

$$\mathbf{m}_2'' = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(m)} \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_i$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{11}'' = \mathbf{P}_k^-$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{12}'' = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\mathbf{X}_i^- - \mathbf{m}_k^-) (\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_i - \mathbf{m}_2'')^T$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{22}'' = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_i - \mathbf{m}_2'') (\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_i - \mathbf{m}_2'')^T + \mathbf{R}_k$$

- Recall that if

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{C}^T & \mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix} \right),$$

then

$$\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{B}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}), \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{C}^T).$$

- Thus we get the **conditional mean and covariance**:

$$\mathbf{m}_k = \mathbf{m}_k^- + \mathbf{P}_{12}'' (\mathbf{P}_{22}'')^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{m}_2'')$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k = \mathbf{P}_k^- - \mathbf{P}_{12}'' (\mathbf{P}_{22}'')^{-1} (\mathbf{P}_{12}'')^T.$$

Unscented Kalman filter: Prediction step

- 1 Form the matrix of sigma points:

$$\mathbf{X}_{k-1} = [\mathbf{m}_{k-1} \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{m}_{k-1}] + \sqrt{n + \lambda} [0 \quad \sqrt{\mathbf{P}_{k-1}} \quad -\sqrt{\mathbf{P}_{k-1}}].$$

- 2 Propagate the sigma points through the dynamic model:

$$\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{k,i} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}_{k-1,i}), \quad i = 1 \dots 2n + 1.$$

- 3 Compute the predicted mean and covariance:

$$\mathbf{m}_k^- = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(m)} \hat{\mathbf{X}}_{k,i}$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k^- = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{k,i} - \mathbf{m}_k^-) (\hat{\mathbf{X}}_{k,i} - \mathbf{m}_k^-)^T + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}.$$

Unscented Kalman filter: Update step

- 1 Form the matrix of sigma points:

$$\mathbf{X}_k^- = [\mathbf{m}_k^- \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{m}_k^-] + \sqrt{n + \lambda} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{\mathbf{P}_k^-} & -\sqrt{\mathbf{P}_k^-} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- 2 Propagate sigma points through the measurement model:

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{k,i} = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{X}_{k,i}^-), \quad i = 1 \dots 2n + 1.$$

- 3 Compute the following terms:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_k = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(m)} \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{k,i}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_k = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{k,i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) (\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{k,i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T + \mathbf{R}_k$$

$$\mathbf{C}_k = \sum_i W_{i-1}^{(c)} (\mathbf{X}_{k,i}^- - \mathbf{m}_k^-) (\hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{k,i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T.$$

Unscented Kalman filter: Update step (cont.)

- 4 Compute the filter gain \mathbf{K}_k and the filtered state mean \mathbf{m}_k and covariance \mathbf{P}_k , conditional to the measurement \mathbf{y}_k :

$$\mathbf{K}_k = \mathbf{C}_k \mathbf{S}_k^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{m}_k = \mathbf{m}_k^- + \mathbf{K}_k [\mathbf{y}_k - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k]$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k = \mathbf{P}_k^- - \mathbf{K}_k \mathbf{S}_k \mathbf{K}_k^T.$$

Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF): Example

- Recall the discretized pendulum model

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_k^1 \\ x_k^2 \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_{k-1}^1 + x_{k-1}^2 \Delta t \\ x_{k-1}^2 - g \sin(x_{k-1}^1) \Delta t \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1})} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ q_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$y_k = \underbrace{\sin(x_k^1)}_{\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_k)} + r_k,$$

- \Rightarrow *Matlab demonstration*

Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF): Advantages

- **No closed form** derivatives or expectations needed.
- **Not a local** approximation, but based on values on a larger area.
- Functions **f** and **h** do **not** need to be **differentiable**.
- Theoretically, captures **higher order moments** of distribution than linearization.

Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF): Disadvantage

- **Not a truly global** approximation, based on a small set of trial points.
- Does not work well with nearly **singular covariances**, i.e., with nearly deterministic systems.
- Requires **more computations** than EKF or SLF, e.g., Cholesky factorizations on every step.
- Can only be applied to models driven by **Gaussian noises**.

- Consider the **transformation** of \mathbf{x} into \mathbf{y} :

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P})$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}).$$

- Form Gaussian approximation to (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) by directly **approximating the integrals**:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_M = \int \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_M = \int (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M)^T \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_M = \int (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M)^T \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) d\mathbf{x}.$$

Gaussian moment matching

The moment matching based Gaussian approximation to the joint distribution of \mathbf{x} and the transformed random variable $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{q}$ where $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P})$ and $\mathbf{q} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{Q})$ is given as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_M \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{C}_M \\ \mathbf{C}_M^T & \mathbf{S}_M \end{pmatrix} \right), \quad (1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_M &= \int \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) d\mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{S}_M &= \int (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M)^T \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) d\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{Q} \\ \mathbf{C}_M &= \int (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}) (\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M)^T \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{P}) d\mathbf{x}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Gaussian assumed density filter prediction

$$\mathbf{m}_k^- = \int \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{m}_{k-1}, \mathbf{P}_{k-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{k-1}$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k^- = \int (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) - \mathbf{m}_k^-) (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1}) - \mathbf{m}_k^-)^T \\ \times \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}_{k-1} | \mathbf{m}_{k-1}, \mathbf{P}_{k-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{k-1} + \mathbf{Q}_{k-1}.$$

Gaussian assumed density filter update

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_k = \int \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_k) \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{m}_k^-, \mathbf{P}_k^-) d\mathbf{x}_k$$

$$\mathbf{S}_k = \int (\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_k) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) (\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_k) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{m}_k^-, \mathbf{P}_k^-) d\mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{R}_k$$

$$\mathbf{C}_k = \int (\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{m}^-) (\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_k) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{m}_k^-, \mathbf{P}_k^-) d\mathbf{x}_k$$

$$\mathbf{K}_k = \mathbf{C}_k \mathbf{S}_k^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{m}_k = \mathbf{m}_k^- + \mathbf{K}_k (\mathbf{y}_k - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)$$

$$\mathbf{P}_k = \mathbf{P}_k^- - \mathbf{K}_k \mathbf{S}_k \mathbf{K}_k^T.$$

- Special case of **assumed density filtering (ADF)**.
- Multidimensional Gauss-Hermite quadrature \Rightarrow **Gauss Hermite Kalman filter (GHKF)**.
- Cubature integration \Rightarrow **Cubature Kalman filter (CKF)**.
- Monte Carlo integration \Rightarrow **Monte Carlo Kalman filter (MCKF)**.
- **Gaussian process / Bayes-Hermite Kalman filter**: Form Gaussian process regression model from set of sample points and integrate the approximation.
- **Linearization, unscented transform, central differences, divided differences** can be considered as special cases.

- **Unscented transform (UT)** approximates transformations of Gaussian variables by propagating **sigma points** through the non-linearity.
- In UT the **mean and covariance** are approximated as **linear combination** of the sigma points.
- The **unscented Kalman filter** uses unscented transform for computing the approximate means and covariance in non-linear filtering problems.
- **A non-linear transformation** can also be approximated with **Gaussian moment matching**.
- **Gaussian assumed density filter** is based on matching the moments with numerical integration \Rightarrow many kinds of Kalman filters.

[Tracking of pendulum with EKF, SLF and UKF]