

# Short Course

State Space Models, Generalized Dynamic Systems  
and  
Sequential Monte Carlo Methods,  
and  
their applications  
in Engineering, Bioinformatics and Finance

Rong Chen  
Rutgers University  
Peking University

## 1.2 Review: Kalman Filter

Linear and Gaussian System:

state equation:  $x_t = H_t x_{t-1} + W_t w_t$  where  $w_t \sim N(0, I)$

observation equation:  $y_t = G_t x_t + V_t v_t$  where  $v_t \sim N(0, I)$ .

Examples:

- Local level structural model

state equation  $m_t = m_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$

observation equation  $y_t = m_t + e_t$

- Example:  $y_t$ : realized volatility.  $m_t$  underlying true volatility

- (random) varying coefficient linear models

state equation  $\beta_{i,t} = \beta_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$

observation equation  $y_t = \sum_{i=1}^d \beta_{i,t} x_{i,t} + e_t$

– Example: varying beta in CPAM:

$$y_t = \alpha_t + \beta_t M_t + e_t, \quad \alpha_t = \alpha_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{1,t} \quad \beta_t = \beta_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{2,t}$$

- AR process observed with noise

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{state} \\
 \text{observation}
 \end{array}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 x_{t-p+1} \\
 x_{t-p+2} \\
 \vdots \\
 x_{t-1} \\
 x_t
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\
 \phi_p & \phi_{p-1} & \phi_{p-2} & \cdots & \phi_1
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 x_{t-p} \\
 x_{t-p+1} \\
 \vdots \\
 z_{x-2} \\
 x_{t-1}
 \end{bmatrix}
 +
 \begin{bmatrix}
 0 \\
 0 \\
 \vdots \\
 0 \\
 1
 \end{bmatrix}
 \varepsilon_t$$

$y_t = x_t + e_t$

- **ARIMA models:**  $\phi(B)x_t = \theta(B) \varepsilon_t$

$$x_t = \phi_1 x_{t-1} + \dots + \phi_p x_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t + \theta_1 \varepsilon_{t-1} + \dots + \theta_q \varepsilon_{t-q}.$$

Let  $\phi(B)z_t = \varepsilon_t$  and  $x_t = \theta(B)z_t$ , then  $\phi(B)x_t = \theta(B) \varepsilon_t$ .

Assume  $q < p$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_{t-p+1} \\ z_{t-p+2} \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \\ z_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ \phi_p & \phi_{p-1} & \phi_{p-2} & \cdots & \phi_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_{t-p} \\ z_{t-p+1} \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-2} \\ z_{t-1} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \varepsilon_t$$

and

$$x_t = [\theta_{p-1}, \theta_{p-2}, \dots, \theta_1, 1] \begin{bmatrix} z_{t-p+1} \\ z_{t-p} \\ \vdots \\ z_{t-1} \\ z_t \end{bmatrix}$$

## Linear and Gaussian System:

state equation:  $x_t = H_t x_{t-1} + W_t w_t$  where  $w_t \sim N(0, I)$

observation equation:  $y_t = G_t x_t + V_t v_t$  where  $v_t \sim N(0, I)$ .

Under this model, we have

$$p(x_t \mid y_1, \dots, y_t) \sim N(\mu_t, \Sigma_t)$$

How to obtain  $\mu_t$  and  $\Sigma_t$  (recursively)?

## Two useful facts about joint Normal distribution

(1) If  $(X, Y) \sim N((\mu_x, \mu_y), \Sigma)$ , then

$$E(X | Y) = \mu_x - \Sigma_{xy}\Sigma_{yy}^{-1}(y - \mu_y)$$

$$V(X | Y) = \Sigma_{xx} - \Sigma_{xy}\Sigma_{yy}^{-1}\Sigma_{yx}$$

(2) If  $X \sim N(\mu_x, \Sigma_x)$  and  $Y = GX + Vv$  where  $v \sim N(0, I)$ , what is  $p(X | Y) \propto p(Y | X)p(X)$ ?

First, find the joint distribution of  $(X, Y) \sim N((\mu_x, \mu_y), \Sigma)$

$$\mu_x = \mu_x \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_{xx} = \Sigma_x$$

$$\mu_y = E[Y] = E[GX + Vv] = GE[X] = G\mu_x$$

$$\Sigma_{xy} = E[(X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)'] = E[(X - \mu_x)((X - \mu_x)'G' + v'V')] = \Sigma_x G'$$

$$\Sigma_{yx} = G\Sigma_x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{yy} &= E[(Y - \mu_y)(Y - \mu_y)'] = E[G(X - \mu_x)(X - \mu_x)'G' + Vvv'V'] \\ &= G\Sigma_x G' + VV' \end{aligned}$$

## Kalman Filter:

Suppose at time  $t - 1$  we have obtained  $\mu_{t-1}$  and  $\Sigma_{t-1}$ . That is,

$$p(x_{t-1} \mid y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) \sim N(\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}).$$

- Before we observe  $y_t$ , we can use the state equation to predict  $x_t$ . That is,

$$p(x_t \mid y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) \sim N(\mu_t^{t-1}, \Sigma_t^{t-1})$$

**Note:**

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_t \mid y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) &= \int p(x_t \mid x_{t-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) dx_{t-1} \\ &= \int p(x_t \mid x_{t-1}) p(x_{t-1} \mid y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) dx_{t-1} \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$x_t = H_t x_{t-1} + W_t w_t, \quad \text{we have} \quad x_t \sim N(H_t \mu_{t-1}, H_t \Sigma_{t-1} H_t' + W_t W_t')$$

$$\text{Hence } \mu_t^{t-1} = H_t \mu_{t-1}, \quad \Sigma_t^{t-1} = H_t \Sigma_{t-1} H_t' + W_t W_t'$$

- The observation equation says:

$$y_t = G_t x_t + V_t v_t$$

It provides additional information about  $x_t$  — or correction to the prediction.

- Bayes Theorem

$$p(X | Y) \propto p(Y | X)p(X)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_t | y_1, \dots, y_t) &\propto p(y_t | x_t, y_1, \dots, y_{t-1})p(x_t | y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) \\ &= p(y_t | x_t)p(x_t | y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\mu_t = \mu_t^{t-1} + K_t(y_t - G_t \mu_t^{t-1}) \quad \Sigma_t = \Sigma_t^{t-1} - K_t G_t \Sigma_t^{t-1}$$

where  $K_t = \Sigma_t^{t-1} G_t' [G_t' \Sigma_t^{t-1} G_t + V' V]^{-1}$ .



## Summary:

**state equation:**  $x_t = H_t x_{t-1} + W_t w_t$  **where**  $w_t \sim N(0, I)$

**observation equation:**  $y_t = G_t x_t + V_t v_t$  **where**  $v_t \sim N(0, I)$ .

**Kalman Filter:**  $(\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1})$  **to**  $(\mu_t, \Sigma_t)$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_t^{t-1} &= H_t \mu_{t-1} \\ \Sigma_t^{t-1} &= H_t \Sigma_{t-1} H_t' + W_t W_t' \\ \mu_t &= \mu_t^{t-1} + K_t (y_t - G_t \mu_t^{t-1}) \\ \Sigma_t &= \Sigma_t^{t-1} - K_t G_t \Sigma_t^{t-1}\end{aligned}$$

**where**

$$K_t = \Sigma_t^{t-1} G_t' [G_t' \Sigma_t^{t-1} G_t + V' V]^{-1}.$$

**Note:**

- **Kalman filter can be used to calculate the likelihood function**
- **Hence often used as an estimation tool**
- **It can also do smoothing  $p(x_t \mid y_1, \dots, y_n)$  and prediction  $p(x_{t+d} \mid y_1, \dots, y_t)$ .**

**For nonlinear systems: Use approximation**

- **Extended Kalman filter**
- **etc**

## Kalman Filter R implementation:

- *KalmanLike*
- *KalmanRun*
- *KalmanSmooth*
- *KalmanForecast*

## 1.3 Review: Basic Monte Carlo Methods

### Statistical Inferences:

- **Distribution:**  $p(\cdot, \theta)$  with unknown  $\theta$
- **Objective:** estimate  $\theta$ .
- **Observe:**  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d.
- **Method:** M.L.E. or other

### Monte Carlo Methods:

- **Distribution:**  $p(\cdot, \theta)$  with known  $\theta$
- **Objective:** calculate  $E(h(X))$
- **Generate:**  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d from  $p(\cdot, \theta)$
- **Method:**  $\sum_{i=1}^n h(X_i)/n$  (or improved version)

## Simple methods of generating random samples:

### (1) Transformation:

If  $Y = f(X)$ , and  $x \sim X$ , then  $y = f(x) \sim Y$

- **Example: Normal(0,1):**  $Y = \sqrt{-2\ln(X_1)}\cos(2X_2)$  where  $X_1, X_2$  independent Uniform(0,1)
- **Example: Normal( $\mu, \sigma^2$ ).**  $Y = \mu + \sigma X$ , where  $X \sim N(0, 1)$
- **Example:  $\chi_k^2$ .**  $Y = \sum_{i=1}^k X_i^2$ , where  $X_i \sim N(0, 1)$ , independent.

**(2) Inverse CDF:**

**If  $X$  has a cdf  $F$ , then  $F(X) \sim U(0, 1)$ .**

**If  $F(x)$  is strictly increase (in the range)**

**then  $F^{-1}(U) \sim X$  where  $U \sim U(0, 1)$ .**

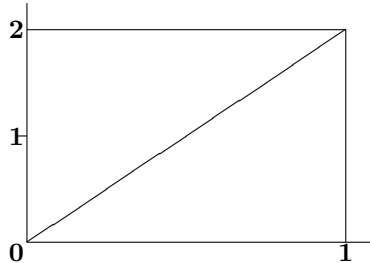
**Example: pdf:  $p(x) = 2x$ , ( $0 < x < 1$ ).**

**CDF:  $F(x) = x^2$ ,  $0 < x < 1$**

**Hence  $X = \sqrt{U}$ ,  $U \sim U(0, 1)$ .**

### (3) Rejection method:

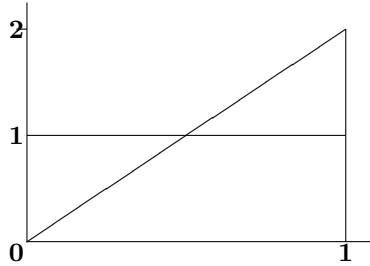
Example: pdf:  $p(x) = 2x$ , ( $0 < x < 1$ ).



- Sample uniform points in the area.
- Accept the points under the density curve.
- The x-coordinate of the accepted points  $\sim X$ .

#### (4) Importance Sampling:

Example: pdf:  $p(x) = 2x$ , ( $0 < x < 1$ ).



- In the over-presented area, down weight the sample.
- In the under-presented area, up weight the sample

How?



**Target distribution  $\pi$ ; a sample  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  from  $g$ .**

$$E_{\pi}(f(X)) = \int f(x)\pi(x)dx = \int f(x)\frac{\pi(x)}{g(x)}g(x)dx = E_g(f(X)w(X))$$

**where  $w(x) = \pi(x)/g(x)$ .**

**We have**

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m w(x_i)f(x_i) \approx E_{\pi}(f(x))$$

**Let weight  $w_i \propto \pi(x_i)/g(x_i)$ , we can use**

$$\frac{1}{\sum w_i} \sum_{i=1}^m w_i f(x_i) \approx E_{\pi}(f(x))$$

**Efficiency:**

$$\text{effective sample size} = \frac{m}{1 + cv^2(w)}$$

**Example:  $m = 100$ . use  $U(0, 1)$ : **ESS**= 78;  $N(0, 1)$ : **ESS**= 24**

**(5) Sequential Sampling**  $(X, Y) \sim p(x, y)$ .

**(i) :** Sample  $X = x$  from the marginal distribution  $p(x) = \int p(x, y)dy$

**(ii) :** Sample  $Y = y$  from the conditional distribution  $p(y | X = x) = p(x, y)/p(x)$

**Example:**

$$(X, Y) \sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \sigma_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

**(i)**  $X = x$  from  $N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$

**(ii)**  $Y = y$  from  $N(\mu_2 - \rho\frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1}(x - \mu_1), (1 - \rho)\sigma_2^2)$ .

**Example: Time Series**  $X_t = \phi X_{t-1} + e_t$  where  $e_t \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$

**(1)**  $X_0$  from  $N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$  (often stationary dist)

**(2)**  $X_t$  from  $N(\phi X_{t-1}, \sigma^2)$

**(Augmentation:)** Use sequential sampling when:  
 $p_Y(y)$  is not easy, but  $p_X(x)$  and  $p(Y | X = x)$  are easy,

**Example:**  $Y = X_1 + \dots + X_N$ ,

where  $X_i$  *i.i.d.*  $\sim$  *Bernolli*( $p$ ), and  $N \sim$  *Poisson*( $\lambda$ ).

(i) **Sample**  $N = n \sim$  *Poisson*( $\lambda$ )

(ii) **Sample**  $Y$  from **Binomial**( $n, p$ )

**Example:**  $Y \sim pN(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2) + (1 - p)N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$

(i) **Sample**  $I = i$  from **Bernoulli**( $p$ )

(ii) **Sample**  $Y$  from  $N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$

## (6) Gibbs Sampler:

- $p(X, Y)$  difficult, but  $p(X | Y)$  and  $p(Y | X)$  easy
- Initial values:  $X = x^{(0)}, Y = y^{(0)}$ .

Iteratively for  $i = 1, \dots$ , do

(i) Sample  $X = x^{(i+1)}$  from  $p(X | Y = y^{(i)})$

(ii) Sample  $Y = y^{(i+1)}$  from  $p(Y | X = x^{(i+1)})$

- After a burn-out period:  $i = 0, \dots, m$ , the samples  $(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$ ,  $i = m + 1, \dots$ , are *correlated* samples from  $p(X, Y)$ .

Other more advanced Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods