# PROBABILISTIC NUMERICS FOR ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Nathanael Bosch

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#### Background

- ► Ordinary differential equations and how to solve them
- ► State estimation with extended Kalman filtering & smoothing



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#### Central statement: ODE solving is state estimation

- ► "ODE filters": How to solve ODEs with extended Kalman filtering and smoothing
- Bells and whistles to make ODE filters work even better
  - ► Uncertainty calibration
  - ► Square-root filtering



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### Fun with ODE filters

- ► Generalizing ODE filters to other related problems (higher-order ODEs, DAEs, ...)
- ► Latent force inference: Joint GP regression on both ODEs and data



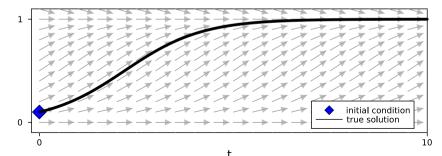
Numerical ODE solvers try to estimate an unknown function by evaluating the vector field

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t)$$

with  $t \in [0, T]$ , vector field  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^d$ , and initial value  $x(0) = x_0$ . Goal: "Find x".

Simple example: Logistic ODE

$$\dot{x}(t) = x(t) (1 - x(t)), \qquad t \in [0, 10], \qquad x(0) = 0.1.$$





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 $\hat{x}(t+h) = \hat{x}(t) + hf(\hat{x}(t), t)$ 



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► Runge-Kutta:

$$\hat{x}(t+h) = \hat{x}(t) + h \sum_{i=1}^{s} b_i f(\tilde{x}_i, t+c_ih)$$



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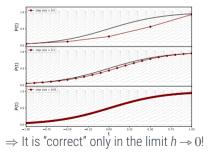
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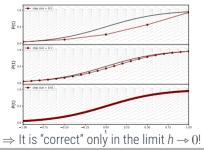
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Numerical ODE solvers **estimate** x(t) by evaluating f on a discrete set of points.



### or "How to treat ODEs as the state estimation problem that they really are"

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$$\rho\left(x(t) \mid x(0) = x_0, \{\dot{x}(t_n) = f(x(t_n), t_n)\}_{n=1}^N\right)$$



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$$p\left(x(t) \mid x(0) = x_0, \{\dot{x}(t_n) = f(x(t_n), t_n)\}_{n=1}^N\right)$$

### To solve an ODE with Gaussian filtering and smoothing, we need:

- 1. Prior:
- 2. Likelihood:
- 3. Data:



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### Prior: General Gauss-Markov processes



See also: Särkkä & Solin, "Applied Stochastic Differential Equations", 2013

► Continuous Gauss-Markov prior: Let  $X(t) = [X^{(0)}(t), X^{(1)}(t), \dots, X^{(q)}(t)]^{\top}$  be the solution of a *linear time-invariant (LTI) stochastic differential equation (SDE)*:

 $dX(t) = FX(t) dt + \Gamma dW(t),$  $X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \Sigma_0),$ 

with *F* such that  $dX^{(i)}(t) = X^{(i+1)}(t)dt$ . Then, we use  $X^{(i)}(t)$  to model the *i*-th derivative of x(t). Examples: Integrated Wiener process, Integrated Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process, Matérn process.

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**Discrete transition densities:** *X*(*t*) can be described in discrete time with

 $X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h) \right),$ 

where (A(h), Q(h)) are given by

$$A(h) = \exp(Fh), \qquad Q(h) = \int_0^h A(h-\tau)\Gamma\Gamma^{\mathsf{T}}A(h-\tau)^{\mathsf{T}} \,\mathrm{d}\tau.$$

The transition matrices (A(h), Q(h)) can be computed with the "matrix fraction decomposition"; see for instance *Särkkä & Solin, "Applied Stochastic Differential Equations", 2013.* 

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A very convenient prior with closed-form transition densities

▶ *q*-times integrated Wiener process prior:  $X(t) \sim IWP(q)$ 

$$dX^{(i)}(t) = X^{(i+1)}(t) dt, \qquad i = 0, ..., q-1, dX^{(q)}(t) = \sigma dW(t), X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \Sigma_0).$$

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$$X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( X(t+h); A(h)X(t), \sigma^2 Q(h) \right),$$
$$[A(h)]_{ij} = \mathbb{I}_{i \le j} \frac{h^{j-i}}{(j-i)!},$$
$$[Q(h)]_{ij} = \frac{h^{2q+1-i-j}}{(2q+1-i-j)(q-i)!(q-j)!},$$

for any i, j = 0, ..., q. (one-dimensional case). (proof: [Kersting et al., 2020])



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$$A(h) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & h & \frac{h^2}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & h \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$Q(h) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{h^5}{20} & \frac{h^4}{8} & \frac{h^3}{6} \\ \frac{h^4}{8} & \frac{h^3}{3} & \frac{h^2}{2} \\ \frac{h^3}{6} & \frac{h^2}{2} & h \end{pmatrix}.$$

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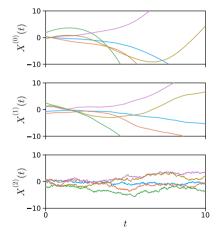
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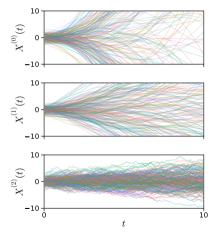
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How to treat ODEs as the state estimation problem that they really are

$$\rho\left(x(t) \mid x(0) = x_0, \{\dot{x}(t_n) = f(x(t_n), t_n)\}_{n=1}^N\right)$$

To solve an ODE with Gaussian filtering and smoothing, we need:

1. **Prior:** *q*-times integrated Wiener process prior

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### 2. Likelihood:

### 3. Data:



The likelihood and data relate the prior to the desired posterior: the numerical ODE solution

▶ Ideal but intractable goal: Want *x*(*t*) to satisfy the ODE

 $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t)$ 



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 $\underset{\longleftrightarrow}{\text{using } X(t)}$ 

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**Easier goal:** Satisfy the ODE on a discrete time grid

$$\dot{x}(t_i) = f(x(t_i), t_i), \quad t_i \in \mathbb{T} = \{t_i\}_{i=1}^N \subset [0, T],$$



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 $m(X(t_i), t_i) = 0$ 

This motivates a measurement model and data:

 $Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \mathcal{N}(m(X(t_i), t_i), R)$  $z_i \triangleq 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, N.$ 

where  $z_i$  is a realization of  $Z(t_i)$ .

using X(t)

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This motivates a noiseless measurement model and data:

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using X(t)

This motivates a noiseless measurement model and data:

 $Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta \left( m(X(t_i), t_i) \right)$  $z_i \triangleq 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, N.$ 

where  $z_i$  is a realization of  $Z(t_i)$ . ( $\delta$  is the Dirac distribution)

The likelihood and data relate the prior to the desired posterior: the numerical ODE solution

 $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t)$ 

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$$X^{(1)}(t) = f\left(X^{(0)}(t), t\right)$$
  
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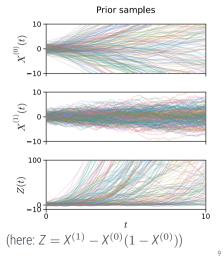
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where  $z_i$  is a realization of  $Z(t_i)$ . ( $\delta$  is the Dirac distribution) **Example:** Logistic ODE  $\dot{x} = x(1-x)$ 





The likelihood and data relate the prior to the desired posterior: the numerical ODE solution

 $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = f(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$ 

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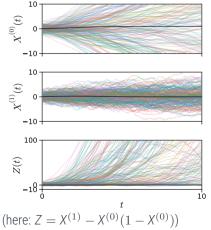
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This motivates a noiseless measurement model and data:

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where  $z_i$  is a realization of  $Z(t_i)$ . ( $\delta$  is the Dirac distribution) **Example:** Logistic ODE  $\dot{x} = x(1 - x)$ 

Prior samples & ODE solution



The likelihood and data relate the prior to the desired posterior: the numerical ODE solution

 $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = f(\mathbf{x}(t), t)$ 

▶ Ideal but intractable goal: Want *x*(*t*) to satisfy the ODE

using X(t)

 $\Leftrightarrow$ 

т

$$X^{(1)}(t) = f\left(X^{(0)}(t), t\right)$$
  
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**Easier goal:** Satisfy the ODE on a discrete time grid

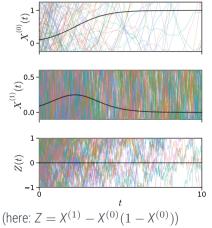
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Prior samples & ODE solution (zoomed)





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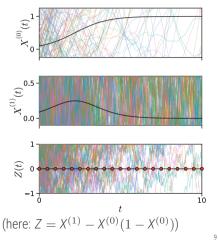
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Prior samples & ODE solution & "Data"





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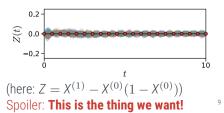
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Posterior samples & ODE solution









#### **Probabilistic numerical ODE solutions**

How to treat ODEs as the state estimation problem that they really are

$$p\left(x(t) \mid x(0) = x_0, \{\dot{x}(t_n) = f(x(t_n), t_n)\}_{n=1}^N\right)$$

To solve an ODE with Gaussian filtering and smoothing, we need:

1. Prior: *q*-times integrated Wiener process prior:

 $X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(A(h)X(t), Q(h)\right)$ 

- 2. Likelihood:  $Z(t) | X(t) \sim \delta (X^{(1)}(t) f(X^{(0)}(t), t))$
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This describes a state estimation problem  $\Rightarrow$  solve with EKF/EKS!



Bringing the last slides all together

For a given initial value problem  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t)$  on [0, T] with  $x(0) = x_0$ , we have:

Bringing the last slides all together

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Bringing the last slides all together

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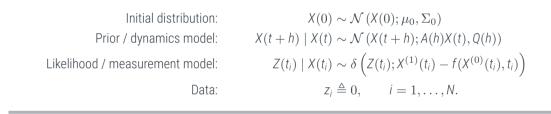
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One thing is still missing:

Bringing the last slides all together

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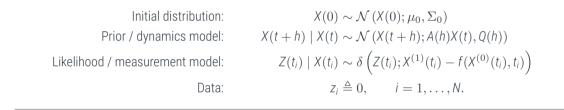


One thing is still missing: What about the initial value??

Bringing the last slides all together



For a given initial value problem  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t)$  on [0, T] with  $x(0) = x_0$ , we have:



One thing is still missing: What about the initial value?? Just add another measurement at t = 0:

$$Z^{\text{init}} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z^{\text{init}}; X^{(0)}(0)\right), \qquad Z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0.$$

Ne can solve ODEs with basically just an extended Kalman filter

#### Algorithm The extended Kalman ODE filter

**procedure** EXTENDED KALMAN ODE FILTER $((\mu_0^-, \Sigma_0^-), (A, Q), (f, x_0), \{t_i\}_{i=1}^N)$  $\mu_0, \Sigma_0 \leftarrow \mathsf{KF}_{\mathsf{UPDATE}}(\mu_0^-, \Sigma_0^-, E_0, 0_{d \times d}, x_0)$ // Initial update to fit the initial value for  $k \in \{1, ..., N\}$  do  $h_{\nu} \leftarrow t_{\nu} - t_{\nu-1}$ // Step size Δ  $\mu_{k}^{-}, \Sigma_{k}^{-} \leftarrow \mathsf{KF}_{\mathsf{PREDICT}}(\mu_{k-1}, \Sigma_{k-1}, A(h_{k}), Q(h_{k}))$ // Kalman filter prediction 5  $m_{k}(X) := E_{1}X - f(E_{0}X, t_{k})$ // Define the non-linear observation model 6  $\mu_k, \Sigma_k \leftarrow \mathsf{EKF}_\mathsf{UPDATE}(\mu_k^-, \Sigma_k^-, m_k, 0_{d \times d}, \mathbf{0}_d)$ // Extended Kalman filter update end for 8 return  $(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)_{k=1}^N$ 0 end procedure 10

Recall: The state X(t) is a stack of q derivatives  $X = [X^{(0)}, X^{(1)}, \dots, X^{(q)}]^{t}$ . For convenience, define projection matrices  $E_i$  to map to the *i*-th derivative:  $E_i X = X^{(i)}$ .





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Recall: The state X(t) is a stack of q derivatives  $X = [X^{(0)}, X^{(1)}, \dots, X^{(q)}]^{T}$ . For convenience, define projection matrices  $E_i$  to map to the *i*-th derivative:  $E_i X = X^{(i)}$ . **EXTENDED KALMAN ODE SMOOTHER**: Just run a RTS smoother after the filter!

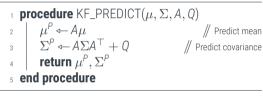


#### The extended Kalman ODE filter – building blocks

The well-known predict and update steps for (extended) Kalman filtering



Algorithm Kalman filter prediction



#### Algorithm Extended Kalman filter update

<b>procedure</b> EKF_UPDATE( $\mu$ , $\Sigma$ , $h$ , $R$ , $y$ )		
2	$\hat{y} \leftarrow h(\mu)$	$/\!\!/$ evaluate the observation model
3		Jacobian of the observation model
4	$S \leftarrow H\Sigma H^\top + R$	// Measurement covariance
5	$K \leftarrow \Sigma H^{\top} S^{-1}$	∥ Kalman gain
6	$\mu^{F} \leftarrow \mu + K(y - \hat{y})$	′)
7	$\Sigma^{\rm F} \leftarrow \Sigma - K S K^{\rm T}$	// update covariance
8	return $\mu^{\scriptscriptstyle \! F}, \Sigma^{\scriptscriptstyle \! F}$	
9 end procedure		

(KF\_UPDATE analog but with affine h)



# **DEMO TIME:** The extended Kalman ODE filter in code

demo.jl

Hyperparameters of the prior have a strong influence on posteriors – so we need to estimate them

**Problem**: The prior hyperparameter  $\sigma$  strongly influences covariances. How to choose it?

Hyperparameters of the prior have a strong influence on posteriors – so we need to estimate them



**Standard approach**: Maximize the marginal likelihood:

$$\hat{\sigma} = \arg \max p(\mathcal{D}_{\mathsf{PN}} \mid \sigma) = p(Z_{1:N} \mid \sigma) = p(Z_1 \mid \sigma) \prod_{k=2}^{N} p(Z_k \mid Z_{1:k-1}, \sigma).$$

....

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▶ In our specific context there is a closed-form solution (proof: [Tronarp et al., 2019]):

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{Nd} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (z_i - \hat{z}_i)^{\top} S_i^{-1} (z_i - \hat{z}_i),$$

and we don't even need to run the filter again! Just adjust the estimated covariances:  $\Sigma_i \leftarrow \hat{\sigma}^2 \cdot \Sigma_i, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, N\}.$ 



# **DEMO TIME:** Calibrated vs uncalibrated posteriors

demo.jl

When steps get small numerical stability suffers – so better work with matrix square-roots directly

[Krämer and Hennig, 2020]

Problem: The computed covariances can have negative eigenvalues due to finite precision arithmetic and numerical round-off, in particular with small step sizes. Failure example: demo.jl

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$$\dim QR \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \end{pmatrix} = R^{\top}Q^{\top}QR$$

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$$\stackrel{\text{doing QR}}{\Leftrightarrow} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \end{pmatrix} = R^{\top}Q^{\top}QR = R^{\top}R. \qquad \Rightarrow M_{L} := R^{\top}$$

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    - Update (in Joseph form):  $\Sigma = (I KH)\Sigma^{P}(I KH)^{T} + KRK^{T}$
    - Smooth (in Joseph form):  $\Lambda = (I GA)\Sigma(I GA)^{\top} + G\Lambda^+G^{\top} + GQG^{\top}$
  - ▶ This can be formulated on the square-root level: Let  $M = M_L(M_L)^{\top}$ ,  $B = B_L(B_L)^{\top}$ ,  $C = C_L(C_L)^{\top}$ :

$$M = ABA^{\top} + C,$$
  

$$\Leftrightarrow \qquad M_{L}(M_{L})^{\top} = AB_{L}(B_{L})^{\top}A^{\top} + C_{L}(C_{L})^{\top} = \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$$
  

$$\dim \operatorname{QR}\left( \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \right) = R^{\top}Q^{\top}QR = R^{\top}R. \qquad \Rightarrow M_{L} := R^{\top}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  **PREDICT/UPDATE/SMOOTH** can be formulated directly on square-roots to preserve PSD-ness!

When steps get small numerical stability suffers - so better work with matrix square-roots directly



[Krämer and Hennig, 2020]

- Problem: The computed covariances can have negative eigenvalues due to finite precision arithmetic and numerical round-off, in particular with small step sizes. Failure example: demo.jl
- ► It holds: A matrix  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is positive semi-definite if and only if there exists a matrix  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  such that  $M = BB^{\top}$ .
- ► Kalman filtering and smoothing in square-root form a minimal derivation:
  - Central operation in **PREDICT/UPDATE/SMOOTH**:  $M = ABA^{\top} + C$ .
    - Predict:  $\Sigma^P = A\Sigma A^\top + Q$
    - Update (in Joseph form):  $\Sigma = (I KH)\Sigma^{P}(I KH)^{T} + KRK^{T}$
    - Smooth (in Joseph form):  $\Lambda = (I GA)\Sigma(I GA)^{\top} + G\Lambda^+G^{\top} + GQG^{\top}$
  - ▶ This can be formulated on the square-root level: Let  $M = M_L(M_L)^{\top}$ ,  $B = B_L(B_L)^{\top}$ ,  $C = C_L(C_L)^{\top}$ :

$$M = ABA^{\top} + C,$$
  

$$\Leftrightarrow \qquad M_{L}(M_{L})^{\top} = AB_{L}(B_{L})^{\top}A^{\top} + C_{L}(C_{L})^{\top} = \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix}$$
  
doing QR  $\begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} AB_{L} & C_{L} \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \end{pmatrix}$ 

$$\stackrel{[AB_L}{\Leftrightarrow} \quad e_{L} \stackrel{[C]}{=} R^{\top} Q^{\top} Q R = R^{\top} R. \qquad \Rightarrow M_L := R^{\top}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  **PREDICT/UPDATE/SMOOTH** can be formulated directly on square-roots to preserve PSD-ness!

 $\Rightarrow$  To solve ODEs in a stable way, use the square-root Kalman filters / smoothers!



# **DEMO TIME:** Solving on extremely small step sizes with square-root filtering

demo.jl



#### Intermediate summary

- ► ODE solving is state estimation
- ► We can estimate ODE solutions with extended Kalman filtering/smoothing, in a stable and calibrated way

#### Next: Extending ODE filters

- 1. Flexible information operators: The ODE filter formulation extends to other numerical problems
- 2. Latent force inference: Joint GP regression on both ODEs and data

#### Extending ODE filters to other related differential equation problems UNIVER

ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

Numerical problems setting: Initial value problem with first-order ODE

 $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0.$ 

This leads to the probabilistic state estimation problem:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Initial distribution:} & X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0\right) \\ \mbox{Prior / dynamics model:} & X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h)\right) \\ \mbox{ODE likelihood:} & Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right), & z_i \triangleq 0 \\ \mbox{Initial value likelihood:} & Z^{\rm init} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z^{\rm init}; X^{(0)}(0)\right), & z^{\rm init} \triangleq x_0 \end{array}$ 



ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

Numerical problems setting: Initial value problem with second-order ODE

 $\ddot{x}(t) = f(\dot{x}(t), x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad \dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}_0.$ 

This leads to the probabilistic state estimation problem:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Initial distribution:} & X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0\right) \\ \mbox{Prior / dynamics model:} & X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h)\right) \\ \mbox{ODE likelihood:} & Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right), & z_i \triangleq 0 \\ \mbox{Initial value likelihood:} & Z^{\rm init} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z^{\rm init}; X^{(0)}(0)\right), & z^{\rm init} \triangleq x_0 \end{array}$ 



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Numerical problems setting: Initial value problem with second-order ODE

 $\ddot{x}(t) = f(\dot{x}(t), x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad \dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}_0.$ 

This leads to the **probabilistic state estimation problem:** 

Initial distribution: $X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0)$ Prior / dynamics model: $X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h))$ ODE likelihood: $Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); X^{(2)}(t_i) - f(X^{(1)}(t_i), X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right), \quad z_i \triangleq 0$ Initial value likelihood: $Z^{\text{init}} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z^{\text{init}}; X^{(0)}(0)\right), \quad z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0$ Initial derivative likelihood: $Z_1^{\text{init}} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z_1^{\text{init}}; X^{(1)}(0)\right), \quad z_1^{\text{init}} \triangleq \dot{x}_0$ 

ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

**Numerical problems setting:** Initial value problem with *differential-algebraic equation* (DAE) in mass-matrix form

 $M\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0.$ 

This leads to the probabilistic state estimation problem:

Initial distribution:	$X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0\right)$	
Prior / dynamics model:	$X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h)\right)$	
ODE likelihood:	$Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right),$	$z_i \triangleq 0$
Initial value likelihood:	$Z^{init} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z^{init}; X^{(0)}(0)\right),$	$z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0$

# Extending ODE filters to other related differential equation problems UNIVERSITY TUBING

ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

**Numerical problems setting:** Initial value problem with *differential-algebraic equation* (DAE) in mass-matrix form

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Initial distribution: $X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0)$ Prior / dynamics model: $X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h))$ DAE likelihood: $Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); MX^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right), \quad z_i \triangleq 0$ Initial value likelihood: $Z^{\text{init}} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z^{\text{init}}; X^{(0)}(0)\right), \quad z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0$ 

ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

Numerical problems setting: Initial value problem with first-order ODE and conserved quantities

 $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad g(x(t), \dot{x}(t)) = 0.$ 

This leads to the probabilistic state estimation problem:

Initial distribution:	$X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0)$	
Prior / dynamics model:	$X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h)\right)$	
ODE likelihood:	$Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right),$	$Z_i \triangleq 0$
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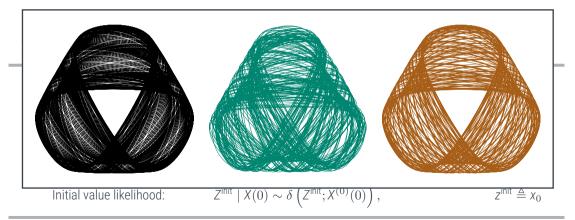
This leads to the probabilistic state estimation problem:

Initial distribution: Prior / dynamics model: ODE likelihood: Conservation law likelihood: Initial value likelihood:

$$\begin{split} & X(0) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0 \right) \\ & X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( X(t+h); A(h) X(t), Q(h) \right) \\ & Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta \left( Z(t_i); X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i) \right), \qquad z_i \triangleq 0 \\ & Z_i^c(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta \left( Z_i^c(t_i); g(X^{(0)}(t), X^{(1)}(t)) \right), \qquad z_i^c \triangleq 0 \\ & Z^{\text{init}} \mid X(0) \sim \delta \left( Z^{\text{init}}; X^{(0)}(0) \right), \qquad z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0 \end{split}$$

ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

Numerical problems setting: Initial value problem with first-order ODE and conserved quantities



ODE filters can solve much more than the ODEs that we saw so far!

**Numerical problems setting:** Initial value problem with first-order ODE and conserved quantities

 $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad g(x(t), \dot{x}(t)) = 0.$ 

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Initial distribution: $X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(0); \mu_0, \Sigma_0)$ Prior / dynamics model: $X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(X(t+h); A(h)X(t), Q(h))$ ODE likelihood: $Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z(t_i); X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), t_i)\right), \quad z_i \triangleq 0$ Conservation law likelihood: $Z_i^c(t_i) \mid X(t_i) \sim \delta\left(Z_i^c(t_i); g(X^{(0)}(t), X^{(1)}(t))\right), \quad z_i^c \triangleq 0$ Initial value likelihood: $Z_i^{init} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(Z_i^{init}; X^{(0)}(0)\right), \quad z_i^{init} \triangleq x_0$ 

The measurement model provides a very flexible way to easily encode desired properties!



# **DEMO TIME:** Solving a second-order ODE

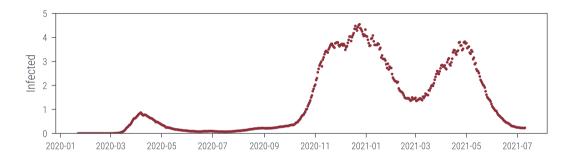
demo.jl



### Next: Combine ODEs and GP regression via latent force inference

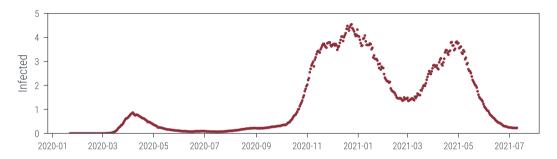
An example we know all too well: COVID-19

Paper: [Schmidt et al., 2021



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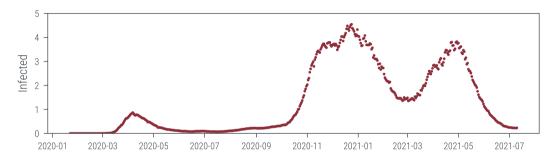


#### **ODE dynamics**:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} S(t)\\ I(t)\\ R(t)\\ D(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\beta \cdot S(t)I(t)/P \\ \beta \cdot S(t)I(t)/P - \gamma I(t) - \eta I(t) \\ \gamma I(t) \\ \eta I(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

An example we know all too well: COVID-19

Paper: [Schmidt et al., 2021

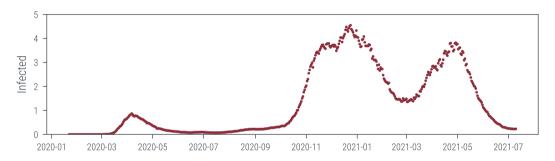


#### **ODE dynamics** with time-varying contact rate:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} S(t)\\ I(t)\\ R(t)\\ D(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\beta(t) \cdot S(t)I(t)/P \\ \beta(t) \cdot S(t)I(t)/P - \gamma I(t) - \eta I(t) \\ \gamma I(t) \\ \eta I(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

An example we know all too well: COVID-19

Paper: [Schmidt et al., 2021



#### **ODE dynamics** with time-varying contact rate:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} S(t)\\ I(t)\\ R(t)\\ D(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\beta(t) \cdot S(t)I(t)/P \\ \beta(t) \cdot S(t)I(t)/P - \gamma I(t) - \eta I(t) \\ \gamma I(t) \\ \eta I(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

**Latent force model**: Gauss–Markov prior  $\beta(t + h) \mid \beta(t) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( A_{\beta}(h)\beta(t), Q_{\beta}(h) \right)$  **Data**:

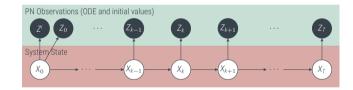
 $y_i \mid x(t_i) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(Hx(t_i), \sigma^2 l\right)$ 

Once again we can just build a custom state-space model for the problem setup of interest

Initial value problem:

ODE filter setup:

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0.$$



Once again we can just build a custom state-space model for the problem setup of interest

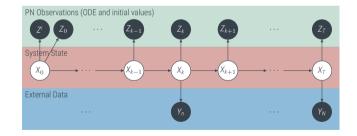
Initial value problem:

#### $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0.$

#### External observations / data:

$$y_i = Hx(t_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

#### ODE filter setup:





Once again we can just build a custom state-space model for the problem setup of interest

Paper: [Schmidt et al., 2021

#### Initial value problem:

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), \beta(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

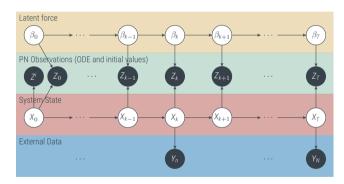
#### External observations / data:

$$y_i = Hx(t_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2).$$

#### Latent Gauss-Markov process:

 $\beta(t+h) \mid \beta(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(A_{\beta}(h)\beta(t), \sigma_{\beta}^2 Q_{\beta}(h)\right).$ 

#### **ODE filter setup:**



Once again we can just build a custom state-space model for the problem setup of interest

Paper: [Schmidt et al., 2021

#### Initial value problem:

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), \beta(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

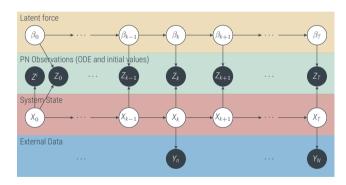
#### External observations / data:

$$y_i = H x(t_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2).$$

#### Latent Gauss-Markov process:

 $\beta(t+h) \mid \beta(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(A_{\beta}(h)\beta(t), \sigma_{\beta}^2 Q_{\beta}(h)\right).$ 

#### **ODE filter setup:**



#### Again: This is just state-space model

Once again we can just build a custom state-space model for the problem setup of interest

Paper: [Schmidt et al., 2021

#### Initial value problem:

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), \beta(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

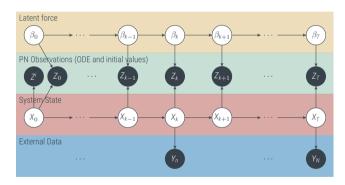
#### External observations / data:

$$y_i = H x(t_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2).$$

#### Latent Gauss-Markov process:

 $\beta(t+h) \mid \beta(t) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \mathsf{A}_{\beta}(h)\beta(t), \sigma_{\beta}^2 \mathcal{Q}_{\beta}(h) \right).$ 

#### **ODE filter setup:**



Again: This is just state-space model  $\Rightarrow$  inference with EKF/EKS!

#### Formally we obtain the **probabilistic state estimation problem**:

Latent force inference: Writing down the state estimation problem

State initial distribution: State dynamics:	$X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \Sigma_0)$ $X(t+h) \mid X(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(A(h)X(t), Q(h))$	
Latent force initial distribution: Latent force dynamics:	$\beta(0) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu_0^{\beta}, \Sigma_0^{\beta}\right)$ $\beta(t+h) \mid \beta(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(A_{\beta}(h)\beta(t), Q_{\beta}(h)\right)$	
ODE likelihood:	$Z(t_i) \mid X(t_i), \beta(t_i) \sim \delta \left( X^{(1)}(t_i) - f(X^{(0)}(t_i), \beta(t_i), t_i) \right),$	$Z_i \triangleq 0$
Initial value likelihood:	$Z^{\text{init}} \mid X(0) \sim \delta\left(X^{(0)}(0)\right),$	$z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0$
Data likelihood:	$Y_i \mid X(t_i) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathcal{H}X^{(0)}(t_i), \sigma^2 l\right),$	$y_i \in \mathcal{D}_y$

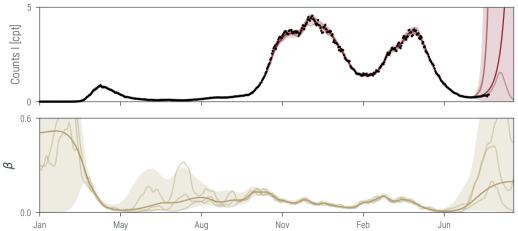
Formally we obtain the probabilistic state estimation problem, simplified by stacking  $\tilde{X} = [X, \beta]$ :

Initial distribution:	$ ilde{X}(0) \sim \mathcal{N}\left( ilde{\mu}_0,  ilde{\Sigma}_0 ight)$	
Prior / dynamics model:	$\tilde{X}(t+h) \mid \tilde{X}(t) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\tilde{A}(h)\tilde{X}(t), \tilde{Q}(h)\right)$	
ODE likelihood:	$Z(t_i) \mid \tilde{X}(t_i) \sim \delta\left(E_1 \tilde{X}(t_i) - f(E_0 \tilde{X}(t_i), E_\beta \tilde{X}(t_i), t_i)\right),$	$Z_i \triangleq 0$
Initial value likelihood:	$Z^{\text{init}} \mid \tilde{X}(0) \sim \delta\left(E_0 \tilde{X}(0)\right),$	$z^{\text{init}} \triangleq x_0$
Data likelihood: with $E_0 \tilde{X} := X^{(0)}$ , $E_1 \tilde{X} :=$	$Y_i \mid \tilde{X}(t_i) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(HE_0\tilde{X}(t_i), \sigma^2 I\right),$ $X^{(1)}, E_\beta \tilde{X} := \beta.$	$y_i \in \mathcal{D}_y$

### Latent force inference: Results

Posteriors over infections and contact rates *in a single forward-backward pass* 







# Outlook



#### Probabilistic Numerics: Computation as Machine Learning Philipp Hennig, Michael A. Osborne, Hans P. Kersting, 2022



### Probabilistic Numerics: Computation as Machine Learning Philipp Hennig, Michael A. Osborne, Hans P. Kersting, 2022

#### References for topics not covered today:

- ► ODE filter theory and details:
  - ► Convergence rates: [Kersting et al., 2020, Tronarp et al., 2021]
  - Other filtering algorithms (e.g. IEKS and particle filter): [Tronarp et al., 2019, Tronarp et al., 2021]
  - Step-size adaptation and more calibration: [Bosch et al., 2021]
  - ▶ Scaling ODE filters to high dimensions: [Krämer et al., 2022]
- ► More related differential equation problems:
  - ▶ Boundary value problems (BVPs): [Krämer and Hennig, 2021]
  - Partial differential equations (PDEs): [Krämer et al., 2022]
- ► Inverse problems
  - ▶ Parameter inference in ODEs with ODE filters: [Tronarp et al., 2022]
  - ▶ Efficient latent force inference: [Schmidt et al., 2021]



#### Summary

► ODE solving is state estimation

 $\Rightarrow$  treat initial value problems as state estimation problems

- ► "ODE filters": How to solve ODEs with Bayesian filtering and smoothing
- ▶ Bells and whistles: Uncertainty calibration & Square-root filtering
- ► Flexible information operators to solve more than just standard ODEs
- ► Latent force inference: Joint GP regression on both ODEs and data

#### Software packages



https://github.com/nathanaelbosch/ProbNumDiffEq.jl
]add ProbNumDiffEq



https://github.com/probabilistic-numerics/probnum pip install probnum



https://github.com/pnkraemer/probdiffeq pip install probdiffeq



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► Tronarp, F., Kersting, H., Särkkä, S., and Hennig, P. (2019).

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# BACKUP

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# Background: Bayesian State Estimation with Extended Kalman filtering and smoothing

Bayesian filters and smoothers estimate an unknown state (often continuous) from observations

#### Non-linear Gaussian state-estimation problem:

Initial distribution:	$x_0 \sim \mathcal{N}\left(x_0; \mu_0, \Sigma_0\right),$
Prior / dynamics:	$x_{i+1} \mid x_i \sim \mathcal{N}\left(x_{i+1}; f(x_i), Q_i\right),$
Likelihood / measurement:	$y_i \mid x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(y_i; m(x_i), R_i),$
Data:	$\mathcal{D} = \{y_i\}_{i=1}^N.$



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**The extended Kalman filter/smoother** (EKF/EKS) recursively computes Gaussian approximations:

Predict:	$p(x_i \mid y_{1:i-1}) \approx \mathcal{N}(x_i; \mu_i^{\mathcal{P}}, \Sigma_i^{\mathcal{P}}),$
Filter:	$p(\mathbf{x}_i \mid \mathbf{y}_{1:i}) \approx \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_i; \mu_i, \Sigma_i),$
Smooth:	$p(x_i \mid y_{1:N}) \approx \mathcal{N}(x_i; \mu_i^S, \Sigma_i^S),$
Likelihood:	$p(y_i \mid y_{1:i-1}) \approx \mathcal{N}(y_i; \hat{y}_i, S_i).$



Bayesian filters and smoothers estimate an unknown state (often continuous) from observations

# UNIVERSITAT

#### Non-linear Gaussian state-estimation problem:

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$$\begin{aligned} x_0 &\sim \mathcal{N} \left( x_0; \mu_0, \Sigma_0 \right), \\ x_{i+1} \mid x_i &\sim \mathcal{N} \left( x_{i+1}; f(x_i), Q_i \right), \\ y_i \mid x_i &\sim \mathcal{N} \left( y_i; m(x_i), R_i \right), \\ \mathcal{D} &= \{ y_i \}_{i=1}^N. \end{aligned}$$

#### PREDICT

$$\begin{split} \mu_{i+1}^{p} &= f(\mu_{i}), \\ \Sigma_{i+1}^{p} &= J_{f}(\mu_{i})\Sigma_{i}J_{f}(\mu_{i})^{\top} + Q_{i}. \end{split}$$

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Bayesian filters and smoothers estimate an unknown state (often continuous) from observations



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#### UPDATE

$$\begin{split} \hat{z}_i &= m(\mu_i^P), \\ S_i &= J_m(\mu_i^P) \Sigma_i^P J_m(\mu_i^P)^\top + R_i, \\ K_i &= \Sigma_i^P J_m(\mu_i^P)^\top S_i^{-1}, \\ \mu_i &= \mu_i^P + K_i \left( z_i - \hat{z}_i \right), \\ \Sigma_i &= \Sigma_i^P - K_i S_i K_i^\top. \end{split}$$

Bayesian filters and smoothers estimate an unknown state (often continuous) from observations



#### Non-linear Gaussian state-estimation problem:

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Similarly SMOOTH.

# On linearization strategies and their influence on A-Stability

We can actually approximate the Jacobian in the EKF and still get sensible results / algorithms!



- Measurement model:  $m(X(t), t) = X^{(1)}(t) f(X^{(0)}(t), t)$
- ► A standard extended Kalman filter computes the Jacobian of the measurement mode:  $J_m(\xi) = E_1 - J_f(E_0\xi, t)E_0$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  This algorithm is often called EK1.
- ► Turns out the following also works:  $J_f \approx 0$  and then  $J_m(\xi) \approx E_1$ ⇒ The resulting algorithm is often called EKO.

#### A comparison of EK1 and EK0:

	Jacobian	type	A-stable		speed
EK1	$H = E_1 - J_f(E_0 \mu^p) E_0$	semi-implicit	yes	more expressive	slower ( $O(Nd^3q^3)$ )
EKO	$H = E_1$	explicit	no	simpler	faster ( $O(Ndq^3)$ )

A very convenient prior with closed-form transition densities

▶ *q*-times integrated Wiener process prior:  $X(t) \sim IWP(q)$ 

$$dX^{(i)}(t) = X^{(i+1)}(t) dt, \qquad i = 0, ..., q-1, dX^{(q)}(t) = \sigma dW(t), X(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \Sigma_0).$$

► Corresponds to Taylor-polynomial + perturbation:

$$X^{(0)}(t) = \sum_{m=0}^{q} X^{(m)}(0) \frac{t^m}{m!} + \sigma \int_0^t \frac{t-\tau}{q!} \, \mathrm{d}W(\tau)$$

