

Particle flow for particle filtering

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McGill



telecommunications &
signal processing
laboratory



Motivation

- Particle filter suffers weight degeneracy in high dimensional state space or when observations are highly informative.

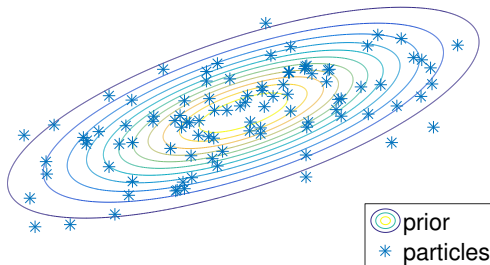
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- Particle filter suffers weight degeneracy in high dimensional state space or when observations are highly informative.
- Particle flow migrates, instead of samples, particles to combat particle degeneracy ¹

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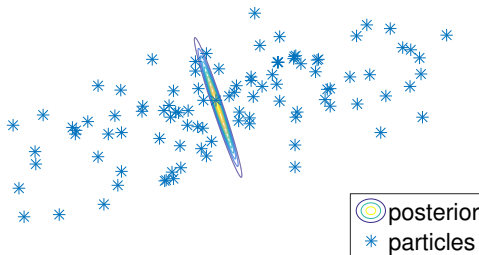
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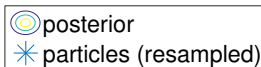
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importance sampling



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Motivation

- Most solutions to particle flow are computationally intractable; we need approximations in implementation.
- Alternative: utilize particle flow to generate a proposal distribution ² ³; often computationally expensive.
- Proposed method: construct particle flows with the invertible mapping property to efficiently evaluate importance weights.

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Problem statement

A nonlinear filtering task with the following model:

$$\begin{aligned}x_k &= g(x_{k-1}, v_k) & x_k & \text{the unobserved state at time step } k \\z_k &= h(x_k, w_k) & z_k & \text{the observation} \\ & & v_k, w_k & \text{noise terms}\end{aligned}$$

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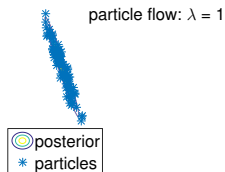
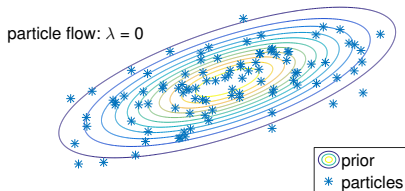
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Task: track the marginal posterior distribution $p(x_k | z_1, \dots, z_k)$.

Particle flow

- The particle flow process is modeled as a stochastic process η_λ for $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.
- The distribution of η_0 is the prior distribution of x_k and the distribution of η_1 is the posterior distribution of x_k .



Zero-diffusion particle flow

The trajectory of η_λ^i in realization i follows $\frac{d\eta_\lambda^i}{d\lambda} = \zeta(\eta_\lambda^i, \lambda)$, governed by the Fokker-Planck equation with zero diffusion:

$$\frac{\partial p(\eta_\lambda^i, \lambda)}{\partial \lambda} = -\text{div}(p(\eta_\lambda^i, \lambda)\zeta(\eta_\lambda^i, \lambda))$$

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- Different flow assumptions:
incompressible flow, exact flow with zero diffusion, etc.
- Prior and posterior are Gaussian: exact Daum-Huang (EDH) filter⁴, Localized exact DH (LEDH) filter⁵.

$$\zeta(\eta_\lambda^i, \lambda) = A^i(\lambda)\eta_\lambda^i + b^i(\lambda) \quad (\text{for LEDH})$$

⁴F. Daum, J. Huang, and A. Noushin, "Exact particle flow for nonlinear filters," in *Proc. SPIE Conf. Signal Proc., Sensor Fusion, Target Recog.*, Orlando, FL, USA, Apr. 2010.

⁵T. Ding and M. J. Coates, "Implementation of the Daum-Huang exact-flow particle filter," in *Proc. IEEE Statistical Signal Processing Workshop (SSP)*, Ann Arbor, MI, USA, Aug. 2012.

Importance weight calculation

$$w_k^i \propto \frac{p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i) p(z_k | \eta_1^i)}{p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i; z_k)} w_{k-1}^i$$

- x_{k-1}^i the i -th particle at time step $k - 1$
- z_k the observation at time step k
- η_1^i the i -th particle after the flow

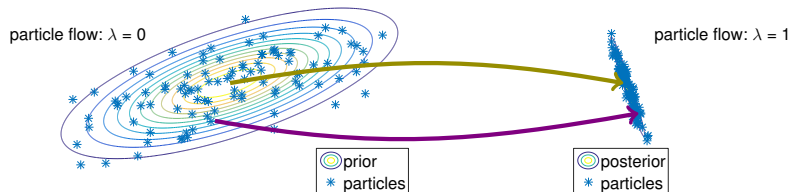
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- η_0^i the i -th particle before the flow

invertible mapping

$$\eta_1^i \neq \eta_1^j \iff \eta_0^i \neq \eta_0^j$$



Importance weight calculation

$$w_k^i \propto \frac{p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i) p(z_k | \eta_1^i)}{p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i; z_k)} w_{k-1}^i$$

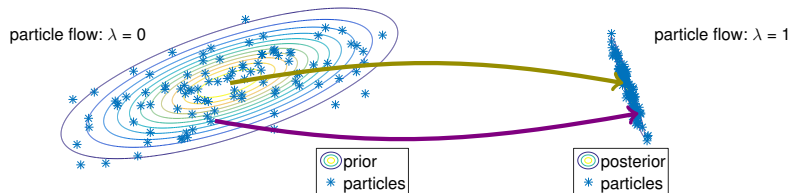
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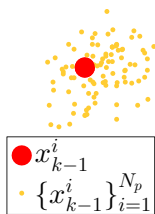
$$\begin{aligned} p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i; z_k) &= p(\eta_0^i | x_{k-1}^i; z_k) \\ &= p(\eta_0^i | x_{k-1}^i) \end{aligned}$$



Particle flow with invertible mapping

Algorithm 1 Particle flow particle filter (LEDH)

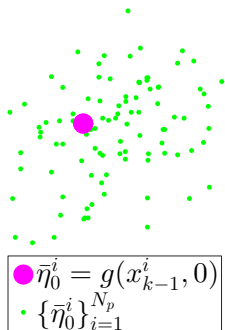
- 1: Initialization.
 - 2: **for** $k = 1$ to TotalTimeStep **do**
 - 3: **for** $i = 1$ to NumParticle **do**
 - 4: calculate $\bar{\eta}_0^i = g(x_{k-1}^i, 0)$
 - 5: sample $\eta_0^i = g(x_{k-1}^i, v_k)$
 - 6: **for** $\lambda = [0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, 1)$ **do**
 - 7: propagate $\bar{\eta}_\lambda^i$ to obtain $A^i(\lambda)$ and $b^i(\lambda)$
 - 8: propagate η_λ^i using $A^i(\lambda)$ and $b^i(\lambda)$
 - 9: **end for**
 - 10: $w_k^i = \frac{p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i) p(z_k | \eta_1^i)}{p(\eta_0^i | x_{k-1}^i)} w_{k-1}^i$
 - 11: **end for**
 - 12: **end for**
-



Particle flow with invertible mapping

Algorithm 2 Particle flow particle filter (LEDH)

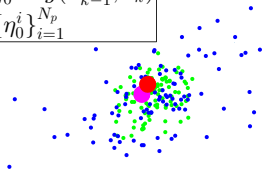
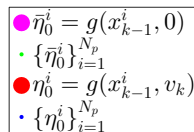
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- 11: **end for**
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Particle flow with invertible mapping

Algorithm 3 Particle flow particle filter (LEDH)

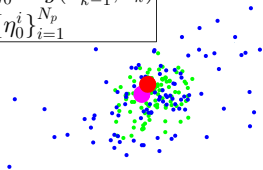
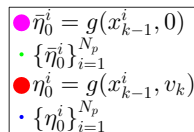
- 1: Initialization.
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- 11: **end for**
- 12: **end for**



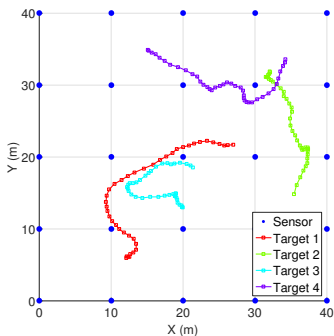
Particle flow with invertible mapping

Algorithm 4 Particle flow particle filter (LEDH)

- 1: Initialization.
- 2: **for** $k = 1$ to TotalTimeStep **do**
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- 6: **for** $\lambda = [0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, 1)$ **do**
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- 8: propagate η_λ^i **using** $A^i(\lambda)$ and $b^i(\lambda)$
- 9: **end for**
- 10:
$$w_k^i = \frac{p(\eta_1^i | x_{k-1}^i) p(z_k | \eta_1^i)}{p(\eta_0^i | x_{k-1}^i)} w_{k-1}^i$$
- 11: **end for**
- 12: **end for**



Experiment setup



- 4 targets, constant velocity model, 16×1 state vector.
- 25 acoustic amplitude sensors in a $40\text{m} \times 40\text{m}$ grid.
- Additive measurement model:

$$\bar{z}^s(x_k) = \sum_{m=1}^{NumTarget} \frac{A}{\| (x_k^{(m)}, y_k^{(m)})^T - \zeta^s \|^{\kappa} + d_0}$$

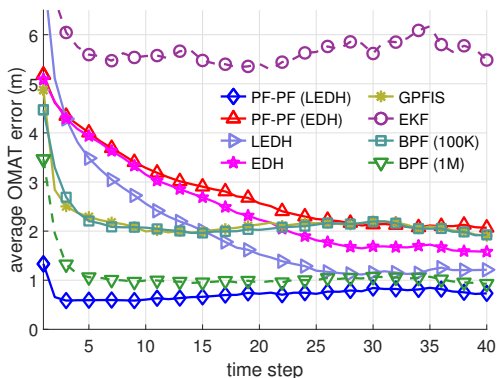
- Small measurement noise.

Tracking demo

Tracking demo

Tracking demo

Performance evaluation



- PF-PF particle flow particle filtering
- LEDH localized exact Daum and Huang filter
- EDH exact Daum and Huang filter
- GPFIS Gaussian particle flow importance sampling
- EKF extended Kalman filter
- BPF bootstrap particle filter

500 particles used in all algorithms except BPF.

optimal mass transfer (OMAT) metric

$$d_p(X, Y) = \left(\frac{1}{M} \min_{\pi \in \Pi} \sum_{i=1}^M d(x_i, y_{\pi(i)})^p \right)^{1/p}$$

- M number of targets
- $d()$ Euclidean distance
- Π the set of possible permutations of $1, 2, \dots, M$

Performance evaluation

- Average error, effective sample size, and execution time per step.
- Results are produced with an Intel i7 4770K 3.50GHz CPU.
- 500 particles used in all algorithms except BPF.

Algorithm	Avg. OMAT	Avg. ESS	Avg. Execution time
PF-PF (LEDH)	0.72	29.3	1.45
PF-PF (EDH)	2.81	29.8	0.01
LEDH	2.05	N/A	1.44
EDH	2.52	N/A	0.01
GPFIS	2.20	14.2	124
EKF	5.73	N/A	0.002
BPF (10⁵ particles)	2.18	2.13	0.52
BPF (10⁶ particles)	1.10	7.43	5.29

PF-PF particle flow particle filtering

LEDH localized exact Daum and Huang filter

EDH exact Daum and Huang filter

GPFIS Gaussian particle flow importance sampling

EKF extended Kalman filter

BPF bootstrap particle filter

Conclusion

- Proposed a particle filtering algorithm that uses particle flow to construct the proposal distribution.
- Proved that the applied particle flows are invertible mappings, so we can evaluate importance weights in a simple fashion.
- Proposed algorithm retains the statistical consistency of particle filter, and acquires desirable properties of particle flow.

Thank you!