

# Particle Filtering Application

Note Title

4/27/2006

Recall

$Y_t = \{y_1, \dots, y_t\}$ , state  $x_t$

prediction

$$P(x_{t+1} | Y_t) = \sum_{x_t} P(x_{t+1} | x_t) P(x_t | Y_t)$$

correction

$$P(x_{t+1} | Y_{t+1}) = \frac{P(y_{t+1} | x_{t+1}) P(x_{t+1} | Y_t)}{P(y_{t+1} | Y_t)} P(x_{t+1} | x_t)$$

Particle filters:

Approximate  $P(x_t | Y_t)$  by samples

$(x_t^1, \dots, x_t^m)$  define recursively

update by sampling from  $P(x_{t+1} | x_t^i)$  to get  
 $\{x_{t+1}^1, \dots, x_{t+1}^m\}$  represents  $P(x_{t+1} | Y_t)$ :

give each sample a weight  $w_{t+1}^i \propto P(y_{t+1} | x_{t+1}^i)$   
 ("∝" means proportional to)

Resample from  $\{x_{t+1}^1, \dots, x_{t+1}^m\}$

with probability proportional to  $w_{t+1}^i$  (with replacement)  
 to get new samples

$\{x_{t+1}^{1*}, \dots, x_{t+1}^{m*}\}$  represent  $P(x_{t+1} | Y_{t+1})$

(2) Example: Tracking

state variable  $x_t = (x_{t,1}, x_{t,2})$

$x_{t,1}$  location

$x_{t,2}$  velocity

Update:  $x_{t,1} = x_{t-1,1} + x_{t-1,2} + \frac{1}{2} \omega_t$

$$x_{t,2} = x_{t-1,2} + \omega_t$$

$\omega_t$  i.i.d. normal  $N(0, q^2)$ .

Equivalently  $P(x_t | x_{t-1}) = P(x_{t,1} | x_{t-1,1}, x_{t-1,2})$   
 $P(x_{t,2} | x_{t-1,2})$

where  $p(x_{t,1} | x_{t-1,1}, x_{t-1,2}) = N(x_{t-1,1} + x_{t-1,2}, q^2/4)$

$$P(x_{t,2} | x_{t-1,2}) = N(x_{t-1,2}, q^2)$$

Observations  $z_t = x_{t,1} + v_t$   $v_t \sim N(0, r^2)$

$$P(z_t | x_t) = N(x_{t,1}, r^2)$$

Models are Gaussian.

So updates can be expressed as Kalman filters.

E.g. only update the means & covariances

(\*) the distribution of the "true" observation is Gaussian  $N(x_t, r^2)$ .  
 But we don't know which observation is true.

The prediction model is Gaussian.  
 $P(x_{t+1} | x_t) = N(x_t + \mu, \sigma^2)$

(3) Harder Problem:

Suppose the target object can be invisible and there may be distractor objects present.  
 Impossible to use standard Kalman.

Notation: The observations occur in a window size  $\Delta$ .

At time  $t$ , the number of observations in the window is a random variable  $m_t$ .

The observations are represented by a vector  $\underline{y}_t = (y_{t,1}, \dots, y_{t,m_t})$ . Each  $y_{t,i}$  is an observation.

Model Assumptions.

The probability that target is visible is  $p_d$ .

The distribution of the number of distractors is Poisson, with parameter  $\lambda \Delta$ .

The position of a distractor is uniformly distributed in the window (i.e. density is  $1/\Delta$ )

Define an Indicator Variable  $I_t = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if target is invisible} \\ k & \text{if } k^{\text{th}} \text{ object is the target} \end{cases}$

$$P(\underline{y}_t | x_t, I_t=0) = \Delta^{-m_t} \frac{(\lambda \Delta)^{m_t}}{m_t!} e^{-\lambda \Delta} = \frac{\lambda^{m_t}}{m_t!} e^{-\lambda \Delta}$$

$$P(\underline{y}_t | x_k, I_t=k) = \frac{\lambda^{m_t-1}}{(m_t-1)!} e^{-\lambda \Delta} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} r} \exp\left\{-\frac{(y_{t,k} - x_t)^2}{2r^2}\right\} (*)$$

(4)

By assumption

$$P(I_t=0) = 1 - p_d, \quad P(I_t=k) = p_d/m_t.$$

So

$$P(\underline{y}_t | \underline{I}_t | \underline{x}_t) \propto \begin{cases} (1-p_d)\lambda & \text{if } \underline{I}_t=0 \\ p_d \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2} r} \exp\left\{-\frac{(y_{t,k}-x_t)^2}{2r^2}\right\} & \text{if } \underline{I}_t=k \end{cases}$$

(we drop the common factor  $e^{-\lambda\Delta}$ )

Now  $\underline{I}_t$  is not known,

so we have to sum it out to obtain

$$P(\underline{y}_t | \underline{x}_t) = \sum_{\underline{I}_t} P(\underline{y}_t | \underline{I}_t | \underline{x}_t)$$

$$\propto (1-p_d)\lambda + \sum_{k=1}^{m_t} p_d \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2} r} \exp\left\{-\frac{(y_{t,k}-x_t)^2}{2r^2}\right\}$$

Now we know  $p(x_{t+1} | x_t)$  &  $p(y_t | x_t)$  so we can apply particle/bootstrap filtering.

This requires the ability to draw samples from  $p(x_{t+1} | x_t)$  — easy, because this is a Gaussian

And to evaluate the terms proportional to  $p_t(y_t | x_t)$  — straightforward, as above (see lecture notes 8).

Particle Filters will work, but there is a better way.