

**Fall 2022 ME424 Modern Control and Estimation**

**Lecture Note 8: Kalman Filter  
- Derivations and Algorithm**

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## Kalman Filter Preview:

- Given stochastic linear system described by

$$x_{k+1} = A_k x_k + B_k u_k + w_k$$

$$y_k = C_k x_k + D_k u_k + v_k$$

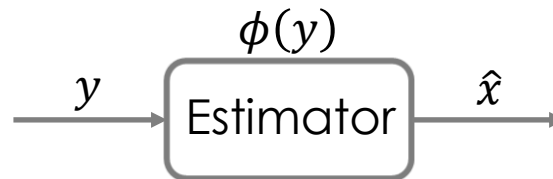
- **Kalman filter:** compute the “best” estimate of  $x_k$  given input-output data history  $\{u_j, y_j\}_{j=0}^k$
- **Kalman Filter Solution:**  $\hat{x}_k = E(x_k | y_0, y_1, \dots, y_k)$
- **Our goal:** in-depth understanding of the assumptions, derivations of Kalman filter

# Outline

- **Minimum Mean Squared Estimation (MMSE)**
- Gaussian Random Vectors
- Kalman Filter Derivations
- Summary and Implementation

# Fundamental Theorem of Estimation

- Suppose we want to estimate the value of a hidden random vector  $X \in \mathbb{R}^n$  based on observations of a related vector  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .
- We have to know the relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ . Suppose we take probabilistic viewpoint of their relations, namely,  $(X, Y) \sim f_{XY}(x, y)$
- An estimator  $\phi(y)$  is a function that maps each measurement  $Y = y$  to an estimate  $\hat{x}$



- Mean-squared error of an estimator:  $E \left( \|\phi(Y) - X\|^2 \right)$

- **Example:** Given  $X, Y$  joint distribution, compute the mean-squared error for the estimator:

$$\phi(y) = 2y$$

		$X$	
		2	3
$Y$	1	0.4	0.1
	2	0.2	0.3

- **Theorem:** The Minimum Mean-Squared Estimator for  $X$  given  $Y = y$ , that minimizes  $E\left(\|\phi(Y) - X\|^2\right)$  is given by

$$\hat{X}_{MMSE} = \phi_{MMSE}(y) = E(X|Y = y)$$


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**Proof:**  $X \in R^n, Y \in R^m, \phi: R^m \rightarrow R^n$ , need to solve  $\min_{\phi(\cdot)} E\left(\|\phi(Y) - X\|^2\right)$

Note:  $E\left(\|\phi(Y) - X\|^2\right) = \int E\left(\|\phi(Y) - X\|^2 | Y = y\right) f_Y(y) dy$ , thus we just need to find the estimator  $\phi(\cdot)$  to minimize  $E\left(\|\phi(Y) - X\|^2 | Y = y\right)$  for each  $y$

$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\|\phi(Y) - X\|^2 | Y = y\right) &= E\left((\phi(Y) - X)^T (\phi(Y) - X) | Y = y\right) \\ &= E\left(\phi(Y)^T \phi(Y) - \phi(Y)^T X - X^T \phi(Y) + X^T X | Y = y\right) \\ &= E\left(\phi(Y)^T \phi(Y) | Y = y\right) - E\left(\phi(Y)^T X | Y = y\right) - E\left(X^T \phi(Y) | Y = y\right) + E\left(X^T X | Y = y\right) \\ &= \phi(y)^T \phi(y) - 2\phi(y)^T E(X|Y = y) + E\left(X^T X | Y = y\right) \\ &= (\phi(y) - E(X|Y = y))^T (\phi(y) - E(X|Y = y)) - E(X|Y = y)^T E(X|Y = y) + E\left(X^T X | Y = y\right) \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Optimal  $\phi$  is thus given by:  $\phi(y) = E(X|Y = y)$

- **Remarks:**

- 1. The MMSE is just the conditional mean !!
- 2. To compute the MMSE, the general way is to compute the conditional mean directly

- 3. **Important special case:**

**If  $(X, Y)$  are jointly Gaussian random vectors, then there is a simple analytical form for the conditional mean**

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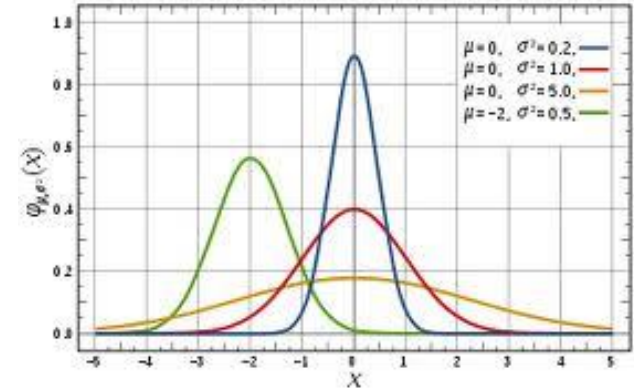
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## ■ Gaussian Random Vectors

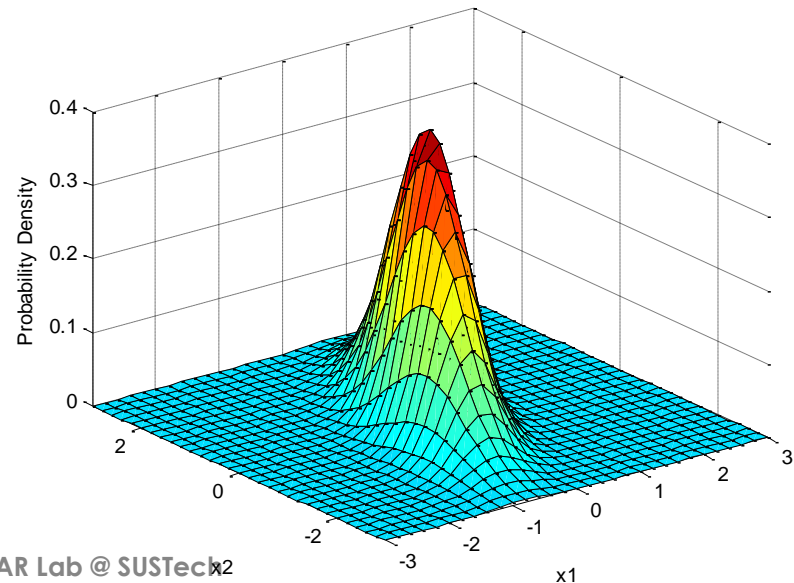
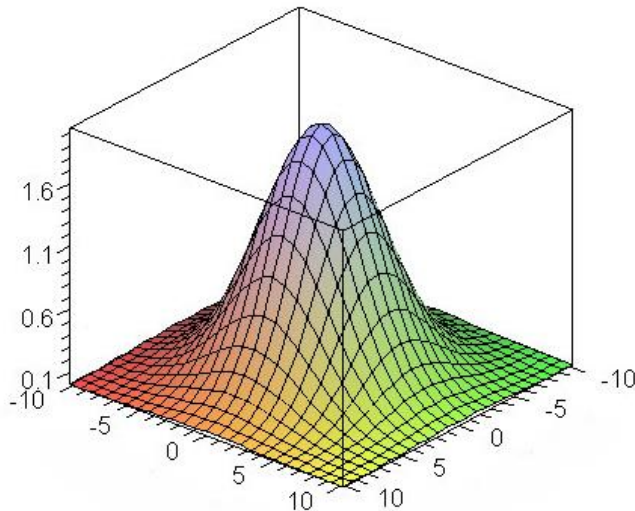
- Important due to central limit theorem
- 1D Gaussian:  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma), \mu \in R, \sigma \in R_+$

$$\text{pdf: } f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$



- n-D Gaussian:  $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma), \mu \in R^n, \Sigma \in R^{n \times n}$

$$\text{pdf: } f_X(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} (\det(\Sigma))^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)\right\}$$



- Gaussian random vectors have nice properties
  - It can be presented by two parameters:  
**mean vector and covariance matrix**
  - **Fact 1: Uncorrelated jointly Gaussian vectors are independent**
  - **Fact 2: Linear transformation of Gaussian random vectors are Gaussian**
  - **Fact 3: Conditional Gaussian is Gaussian**
    - If general, checking whether a random variable is Gaussian or not requires computing its probability density function to see whether it is of the form of Gaussian. This can be quite involved.

- **Fact 1: Independence between two Gaussians:**

- If  $X \in R^n, Y \in R^m$  are jointly Gaussians, then  $X \perp Y$  if and only if

$$E(XY^T) = E(X) \cdot E(Y)^T$$

$$Cov(X, Y) = 0$$

- However, if  $X, Y$  are both Gaussians, but are not jointly Gaussian, then the above tests do not hold in general
  - See supplemental note on joint Gaussian random vectors

- **Fact 2: Affine transformation of Gaussian is still Gaussian**

Let  $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$ ,  $\mu \in R^n$ ,  $\Sigma \in R^{n \times n}$ ,  $A \in R^{m \times n}$ ,  $b \in R^m$ , then

$$Z = AX + b \sim N(A\mu + b, A\Sigma A^T)$$

- This can be used to test whether a random variable is Gaussian or not

Example:  $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$ ,  $X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,

- Is  $X_2$  Gaussian?

- Is  $Z = a_2X_2 + a_3X_3$  a Gaussian?
  
- Is  $Y = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix}$  a Gaussian?
  
- Is  $X_2 \perp X_1$ ? How about  $X_1$  and  $X_3$

- **Fact 3: Conditional Gaussian is Gaussian:** Let  $X \in R^n, Y \in R^m$  be jointly Gaussian with mean  $\mu_X, \mu_Y$ , covariance  $\Sigma_X, \Sigma_Y, \Sigma_{XY}, \Sigma_{YX}$ , i.e,

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix} \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_X \\ \mu_Y \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_X & \Sigma_{XY} \\ \Sigma_{YX} & \Sigma_Y \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

then the conditional distribution of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is Gaussian

$$X|Y = y \sim N(\mu_{X|Y=y}, \Sigma_{X|Y=y}),$$

where

$$\mu_{X|Y=y} = \mu_X + \Sigma_{XY}\Sigma_Y^{-1}(y - \mu_Y)$$

$$\Sigma_{X|Y=y} = \Sigma_X - \Sigma_{XY}\Sigma_Y^{-1}\Sigma_{YX}$$

- **Example:** suppose  $Z = \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $X \in R^2, Y \in R$ , and  $Z \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}\right)$

■ Another example:  $Z = \begin{bmatrix} Z_1 \\ Z_2 \\ Z_3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $Z \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 4 & 0.5 \\ 2 & 0.5 & 9 \end{bmatrix}\right)$



- MMSE example:  $X \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ , let  $Y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}X + V$ ,  
where  $V \sim N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ ,  $V$  is independent of  $X$ . Find the MMSE of  $X$   
given  $Y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

- solution (continue)

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- Minimum Mean Squared Estimation (MMSE)
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# Kalman Filter

- Consider a stochastic linear system described by

$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= A_k x_k + B_k u_k + w_k \\ y_k &= C_k x_k + D_k u_k + v_k\end{aligned}$$

- $x_k \in R^n$  --- system state at time  $k$
  - $y_k \in R^m$  --- measurement vector at time  $k$
  - $Y_k \triangleq [y_0^T \ y_1^T \ \dots \ y_k^T]^T$  --- collection of measurements up to time  $k$
  - $u_k \in R^p$  --- system input at time  $k$  (deterministic input)
  - $w_k \in R^n$  --- process noise  $\sim N(0, Q_k)$
  - $v_k \in R^p$  --- measurement noise  $\sim N(0, R_k)$
  - Assume  $x_0 \sim N(\mu_0, \Phi_0)$ ,  $x_0 \perp w_k$ ,  $x_0 \perp v_k$ ,  $w_k \perp v_k$ ,  $\forall k$
- Implications of the above assumption:
    - $x_k$  is Gaussian and  $y_k$  is Gaussian for all  $k \geq 0$  (VFY)

- **State estimation problem:** Find the MMSE of  $x_k$  given  $Y_k$
- Solution using Fundamental Theorem:  $E(x_k | Y_k)$
- **Kalman filter is just a recursive way to compute the conditional mean as new measurement comes in**
- Define:  $\hat{x}_{k|k} = E(x_k | Y_k)$ ,  $\hat{x}_{k|k-1} = E(x_k | Y_{k-1})$   

$$P_{k|k} = E\left((x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k})(x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k})^T \middle| Y_k\right)$$

$$P_{k|k-1} = E\left((x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k-1})(x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k-1})^T \middle| Y_{k-1}\right)$$
- Simplified notation:  $\hat{x}_k \triangleq \hat{x}_{k|k}$ ,  $P_k = P_{k|k}$

- Before deriving Kalman filter, let's work on an example

**Example:** 
$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= A_k x_k + w_k \\ y_k &= C_k x_k\end{aligned}$$

where  $x_0 \sim N(0, \Sigma_x)$ ,  $w_k \sim N(0, \Sigma_w)$ ,  $A = \Sigma_w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\Sigma_x = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $C = [1 \quad 2]$ .

Compute  $\hat{x}_0 = E(x_0 | y_0 = 1)$  and  $\hat{x}_1 = E(x_1 | y_0 = 1, y_1 = -1)$

Example continue..

Example continue...



# Derivation of Kalman Filter

- Goal of Kalman Filter: obtain recursive formula

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \hat{x}_k \\ P_k \end{Bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{Bmatrix} \hat{x}_{k+1} \\ P_{k+1} \end{Bmatrix}$$

- We can compute  $\hat{x}_0, P_0$
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Given  $\hat{x}_k, P_k$ , how to compute  $\hat{x}_{k+1}, P_{k+1}$ : divide this recursion into two stages: prediction and measurement update

- **Step 1: prediction** (try to compute  $\hat{x}_{k+1|k}$ ,  $P_{k+1|k}$  using  $\hat{x}_k$ ,  $P_k$ )

- Summary of the **prediction step**:

$$\hat{x}_{k+1|k} = A_k \hat{x}_k + B_k u_k,$$

$$P_{k+1|k} = A_k P_k A_k^T + Q_k$$

## ■ Step 2: measurement update

- We want  $\hat{x}_{k+1} = E(x_{k+1}|Y_{k+1}) = E(x_{k+1}|Y_k, y_{k+1})$
- Up to now, we have  $\hat{x}_{k+1|k}$  and  $P_{k+1|k}$ , i.e. the mean and covariance of conditional random variable  $x_{k+1}|Y_k$
- How to find the mean and covariance of  $x_{k+1}|\{Y_k, y_{k+1}\}$
- Define  $Z = x_{k+1}|Y_k$ ,  $W = y_{k+1}|Y_k \Rightarrow \hat{x}_{k+1} = E(Z|W)$

- Derivation (continue)

- Complete derivation will be posted online

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## Kalman Filter Notations

System model

$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= A_k x_k + B_k u_k + w_k \\ y_k &= C_k x_k + D_k u_k + v_k\end{aligned}$$

Noise model

$$\begin{aligned}w_k &\sim N(0, Q_k) \\ v_k &\sim N(0, R_k)\end{aligned}$$

Measurement history

$$Y_k = \{y_0, y_1, \dots, y_k\}$$

Filtered estimate

$$\hat{x}_k = \hat{x}_{k|k} = E(x_k | Y_k)$$

Filter error

$$e_k = x_k - \hat{x}_k, \text{ with } E(e_k) = 0$$

Filter error covariance

$$P_k = E(e_k e_k^T) = E(e_k e_k^T | Y_k)$$

Predicted estimate

$$\hat{x}_{k|k-1} = E(x_k | Y_{k-1})$$

Prediction error

$$e_{k|k-1} = x_k - \hat{x}_{k|k-1}, \text{ with } E(e_{k|k-1}) = 0$$

Prediction error covariance

$$P_{k|k-1} = E(e_{k|k-1} e_{k|k-1}^T) = E(e_{k|k-1} e_{k|k-1}^T | Y_{k-1})$$

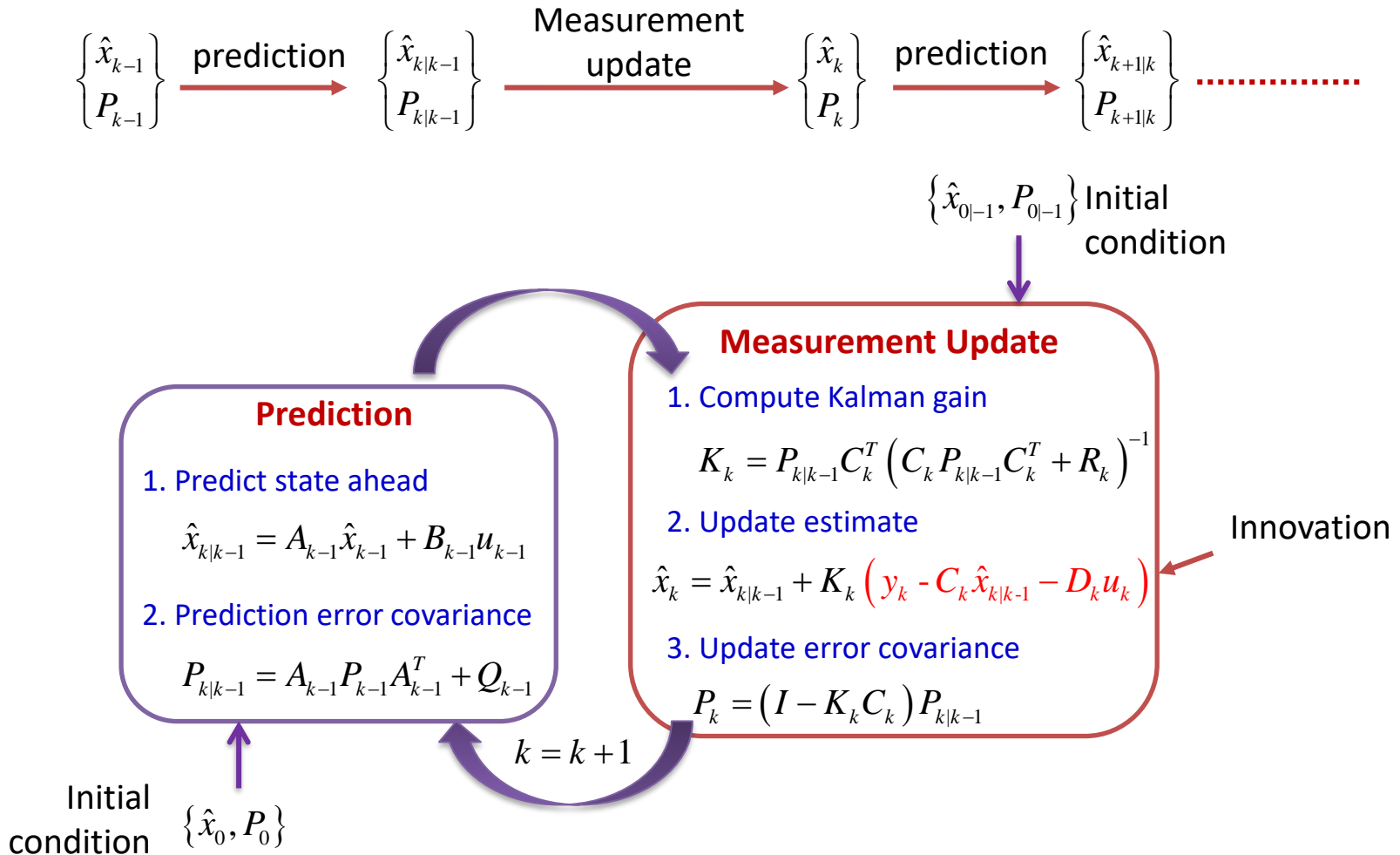
### Some facts:

- Unbiasedness:  $E(e_k) = 0$   $E(e_{k|k-1}) = 0$
- Error covariance equals the conditional error covariance

$$E(e_k e_k^T) = E(e_k e_k^T | Y_k) \quad E(e_{k|k-1} e_{k|k-1}^T) = E(e_{k|k-1} e_{k|k-1}^T | Y_{k-1})$$

- Mean squared error:  $E(\|e_k\|^2) = \text{trace}(P_k)$ ,  $E(\|e_{k|k-1}\|^2) = \text{trace}(P_{k|k-1})$

## Kalman Filter Diagram



Either of the two initial conditions is enough to start the iteration



# Coding Example

