# Ensemble Kalman-Bucy filters

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# Kalman-Bucy filter

The Kalman-Bucy filter considers both the **model** and **observations** to be **time-continuous**.



$$\frac{d\hat{\mathbf{x}}}{dt} = \mathbf{F}\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{P}\mathbf{H}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{R}_{c}^{-1}(\mathbf{H}\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{y})$$

It can also be used for discrete observations by spanning a **pseudotime** *s* (BGR09, BR10). KBF in pseudotime:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{ds} = -\mathbf{P}\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}$$

$$\frac{d\hat{\mathbf{x}}}{ds} = -\mathbf{P}\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{R}^{-1}\big(\mathbf{H}\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{y}\big)$$

### **Ensemble Kalman-Bucy filter**

**Ensemble version:** 



Observations participate in updating both the mean and the perturbations.

The EKBF allows for **mollification** of analysis increments, **non-Gaussian** unimodal and multimodal **extensions**, assimilating **quasi-continuous observations**, etc.

The ODE for perturbations:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{X}}{ds} = -\frac{1}{2(M-1)}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^{T}\mathbf{H}^{T}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{X} \qquad \mathbf{R} = \sigma^{2}\mathbf{I} \qquad \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{I} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{M} = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^{2}(M-1)}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^{T}\mathbf{X}$$

Writing it explicitly:  $\frac{d}{ds} \begin{bmatrix} x_{1}^{(1)} & x_{2}^{(1)} & \cdots & x_{M}^{(1)} \\ x_{1}^{(2)} & x_{2}^{(2)} & \cdots & x_{M}^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{1}^{(N)} & x_{2}^{(N)} & \cdots & x_{M}^{(N)} \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^{2}(M-1)} \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(1)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{1}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) & \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(1)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{2}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) & \cdots & \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(1)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{M}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) \\ \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(2)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{1}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) & \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(2)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{2}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) & \cdots & \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(2)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{M}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(N)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{1}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) & \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(N)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{2}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) & \cdots & \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( x_{m}^{(N)} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_{M}^{(n)} x_{m}^{(n)} \right) \\ \end{bmatrix}$ 

This system must be solved with explicit integration methods. BGR09 and BR10 used **Euler forward** with 4 steps over  $0 \le s \le 1$  $\frac{d}{ds}\mathbf{x} = f(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{j+1} = \mathbf{x}_j + \Delta s f(\mathbf{x}_j)$ 

Does this scheme guarantee stability?

Consider the KBF equation for covariance and its solution:  $\frac{d\mathbf{P}}{ds} = -\mathbf{P}\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P} \longrightarrow \mathbf{P}(s) = \mathbf{P}^b(\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{P}^bs + \mathbf{I})^{-1}, 0 \le s \le 1$ 



For the general case:



Frequent obs (8 steps), linear growth Infrequent obs (25 steps), nonlinear growth

This ratio depends upon:

- Frequency of observations/length of assimilation window
- Density of observations in an area
- Nonlinearity in the forecast model



To avoid stiffening, a linearly semi-implicit method is proposed:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{X}}{ds} = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{P}\mathbf{H}^{T}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{X} \longrightarrow \frac{\mathbf{X}_{k+1} - \mathbf{X}_{k}}{\Delta s} = -\frac{1}{2}\left(\alpha\mathbf{P}_{k}\mathbf{H}^{T}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{X}_{k} + (1-\alpha)\mathbf{P}_{k}\mathbf{H}^{T}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{X}_{k+1}\right)$$

 $\alpha = 1$  recovers Euler Forward.

 $\alpha = 0$  gives a linearly implicit Euler.

 $\alpha = -1$  gives:

$$\mathbf{X}_{k+1} = \mathbf{X}_{k} - \frac{\Delta s}{2} \mathbf{P}_{k} \mathbf{H}^{T} \left( \mathbf{I} + \Delta s \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}_{k} \mathbf{H}^{T} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{X}_{k}$$

when  $\Delta s \mathbf{P}_k >> \mathbf{R} \longrightarrow 1/2 \mathbf{X}_k$ 



A Diagonal Semi-Implicit (DSI) approximation:

$$\mathbf{X}_{k+1} = \mathbf{X}_{k} - \frac{\Delta s}{2} \mathbf{P}_{k} \mathbf{H}^{T} \left( diag \left( \mathbf{I} + \Delta s \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}_{k} \mathbf{H}^{T} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \right) \right)^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{X}_{k}$$

And for the full ensemble:

 $\left|\overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{k+1} = \overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{k} - \frac{\Delta s}{2} \mathbf{P}_{k} \mathbf{H}^{T} \left( diag \left( \mathbf{H} \mathbf{P}_{k} \mathbf{H}^{T} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \Delta s + \mathbf{I} \right) \right)^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-1} \left[ \mathbf{H} \overline{\overline{\mathbf{X}}}_{k} \left( \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{U} \right) - 2\mathbf{y} \mathbf{1}^{T} \right] \right|$ β**=5** в**=10** 0.8 0.7 0.6  $\frac{P(s)}{\sigma^2}$ More resolution is needed at the 0.5 0.4 beginning of pseudotimewhen integrating 0.3 for large  $\beta$ . 0.2 0.1 0 0.5 Ó.

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#### probability density functions



position

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# Modified Lorenz 40var model

• A model with the usual [slow] variables and coupled fast variables.

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_{i} = (x_{i+1} - x_{i-2})x_{i-1} - x_{i} + 8 \qquad + \qquad \frac{d^{2}}{dt^{2}}h_{i} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{2}}\left[-h_{i} + \alpha^{2}\left[h_{i+1} - 2h_{i} + h_{i-1}\right]\right]$$

 $\alpha > 0$  Controls de dispersion in the grid.

 $0 < \mathcal{E} << 1$  Controls the faster evolution (wrt the original variables).

- Variables coupled through an energy exchange. $E_{coupling} = -\delta \sum_{i=1}^{10} h_i x_i$
- The new system

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_{i} = (1-\delta)(x_{i+1} - x_{i-2})x_{i-1} + \delta(x_{i-1}h_{i+1} - x_{i-2}h_{i-1}) - x_{i} + 8$$
  

$$\varepsilon^{2}\frac{d^{2}}{dt^{2}}h_{i} = -h_{i} + \alpha^{2}[h_{i+1} - 2h_{i} + h_{i-1}] + x_{i} \qquad \delta > 0 \text{ Coupling strength}$$

### Results of the MEnKF in the modified Lorenz 40var model



### Transform formulations: Ensemble Transform Kalman Bucy Filters (ETKBFs)

For the perturbations:

 $\mathbf{X}^{a} = \mathbf{X}^{b} \mathbf{W}^{a} \qquad \mathbf{X} \in \mathfrak{R}^{N \times M} \quad M \ll N$  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{R}^{M \times M}$ 

$$\frac{d\mathbf{W}}{ds} = -\frac{1}{2(M-1)}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^{T}\mathbf{Y}^{b^{T}}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{Y}^{b}\mathbf{W}$$
$$\mathbf{W}(0) = \mathbf{I} \qquad \mathbf{W}^{a} = \mathbf{W}(1)$$

Similar scheme for the full ensemble (Direct Ensemble Transform Kalman-Bucy Filter, DETKBF).

# Models used

### Lorenz 1963 model

Strongly nonlinear 3-variable model

 $\dot{x}^{(1)} = \sigma \left( x^{(2)} - x^{(1)} \right) \qquad \sigma = 10$  $\dot{x}^{(2)} = x^{(1)} \left( r - x^{(3)} \right) - x^{(2)} \qquad r = 8/3$  $\dot{x}^{(3)} = x^{(1)} x^{(2)} - b x^{(3)} \qquad b = 28$ 

Integrated using RK4 with  $\Delta t = 0.01$ 



### Lorenz 1996 model 40-variable nonlinear cyclic model $\dot{x}^{(q)} = (x^{(q+1)} - x^{(q-2)})x^{(q-1)} - x^{(q)} + F$ q = 1, 2, ..., 40 $x^{(j)} \equiv x^{(\text{mod}(j, 40))}$ F = 8

Integrated using RK4 with  $\Delta t = 0.025$ 



#### Lorenz 1963, frequent observations

H = I, R = 2I, M = 3



For frequent observations the performance is the same starting with 3 steps and regardless the integration scheme.



not for the DSI method. The steps are reduced from ~60 to ~8.

**Lorenz 1996**, obs every 2 time steps, observing every other gridpoint:

$$\mathbf{R} = 2\mathbf{I}, M = 10$$

A 'cold' ensemble initialization benefits from the DSI method: if the initial conditions are very inaccurate, the EF integration will fail.



**Lorenz 1996:** Experimenting with localization and inflation. M = 10

4 steps are enough for the ETKBFs to have comparable results to LETKF.





# Models used

**SPEEDY** (Simplified Parameterizations, primitivE-Equations Dynamics, Molteni 2003)

- Time step is 40 minutes.

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- Model variables: u, v, T, q, ps
- Spectral model with T30L7 resolution using σ-coordinates. OBSERVATION STATIONS (REALISTIC NETWORK NOBS=415)



### SPEEDY

1 year of spin up, then 2 months of experiments.

Single obs experiment in a well-observed region.4-6 steps guarantee good performance for ETKBFs.





#### OBSERVATION STATIONS (REALISTIC NETWORK NOBS=415)

### Experiments SPEEDY

- What about poorlyobserved regions?
- 6 steps guarantee good performance for ETKBFs due to the DSI scheme.



The latitude-weighted analysis RMSE shows that the performance of the three filters is indistinguishable for all variables in all regions of the globe.

### **ETKBFs should be tested in real systems!**

### References

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