



**SFB 1294**  
Data Assimilation



# RoboLab - A Search and Rescue Mission

---

Niklas Kaspareit, Luci Fumagalli Jana de Wiljes

SFB 1294 Spring School 2023

# Motivation



# Motivation



**Figure 1:** Earthquake in Turkey (February 2023) - Rescuers and helpers are searching for survivors

Source: <https://www.politico.eu/article/death-toll-in-turkey-and-syria-passes-5000-as-rescuers-race-against-time-earthquake/>

# Motivation



# Motivation



**Figure 2:** Football team got trapped in cave in Indonesia (July 2018) - Rescue team with their equipment at cave entrance

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tham\\_Luang\\_cave\\_rescue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tham_Luang_cave_rescue)

# Agenda

---

The RoboTeam

RoboLab history

Robotics in Search and Rescue

ROS2 - the robotics operating system

Motion models

Unscented Kalman Filter

Outlook

## The RoboTeam

---

# The RoboTeam



■ Dr. Jana de Wiljes

# The RoboTeam



■ Dr. Jana de Wiljes



■ Niklas Kaspareit

# The RoboTeam



■ Dr. Jana de Wiljes

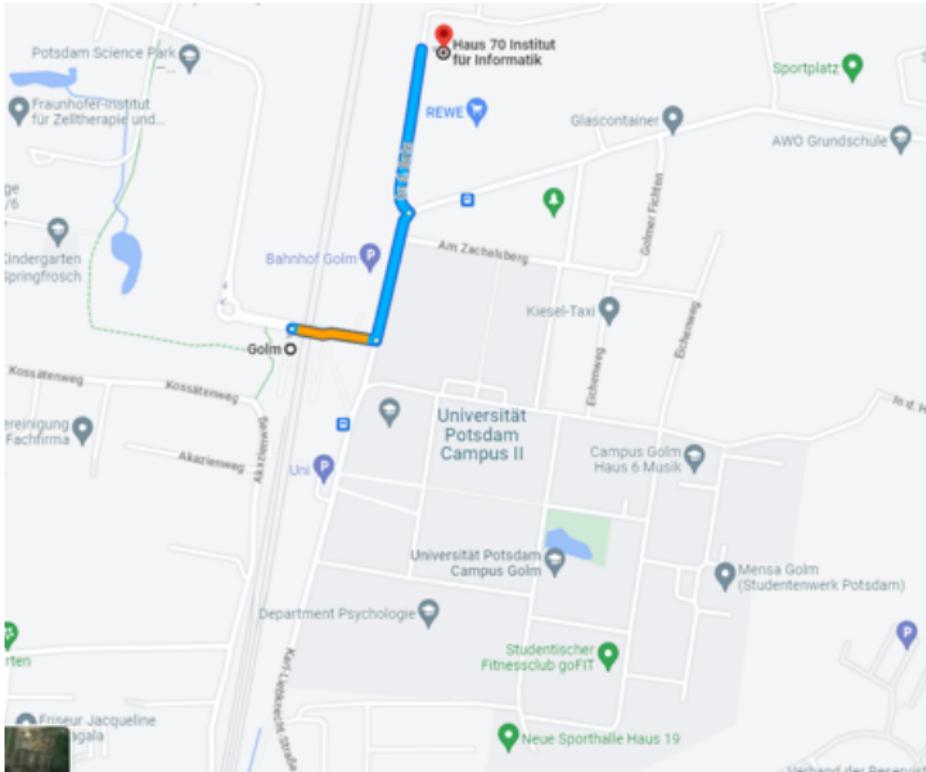


■ Niklas Kaspereit



■ Luci Fumagalli

# The RoboLab

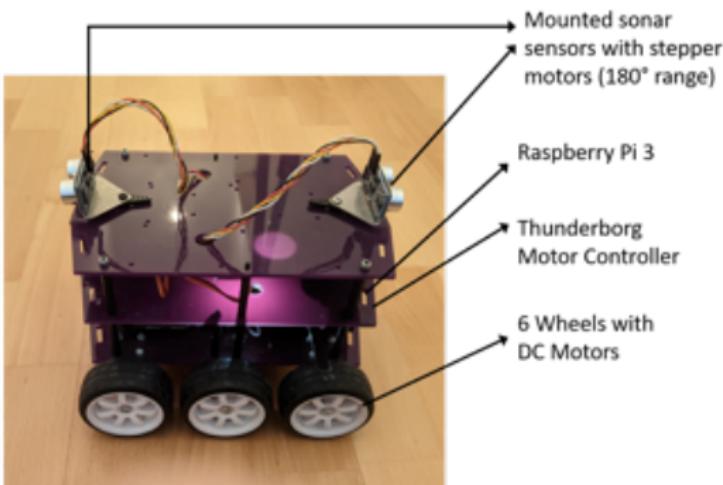


**Figure 3:** Our RoboLab is easily accessible from the Golm train station.

## **RoboLab history**

---

# RoboLab history

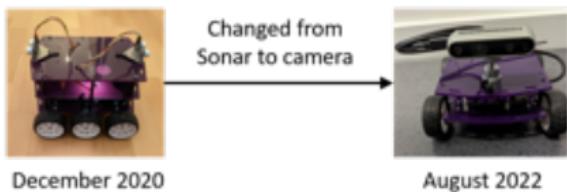


# RoboLab history



December 2020

# RoboLab history



# RoboLab history



December 2020

Char  
Sonar



Depth camera  
(Intel Realsense D435)

Raspberry Pi 3

Thunderborg  
Motor Controller

4 Wheels with  
DC Motors

# RoboLab history

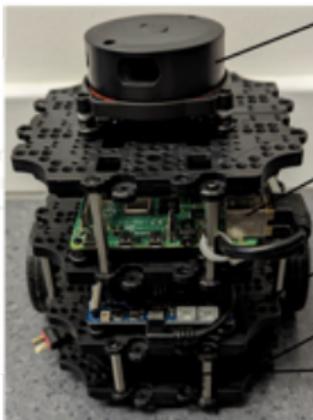


# RoboLab history



December 2020

Changed from  
Sonar to camera



360° LiDAR  
(Light detection and ranging)

Raspberry Pi 4  
(4GB RAM)

OpenCR (32-bit ARM)  
Motor Controller

2x DYNAMIXEL motor  
with encoders

Li-Po Battery

# Robotics in Search and Rescue

---

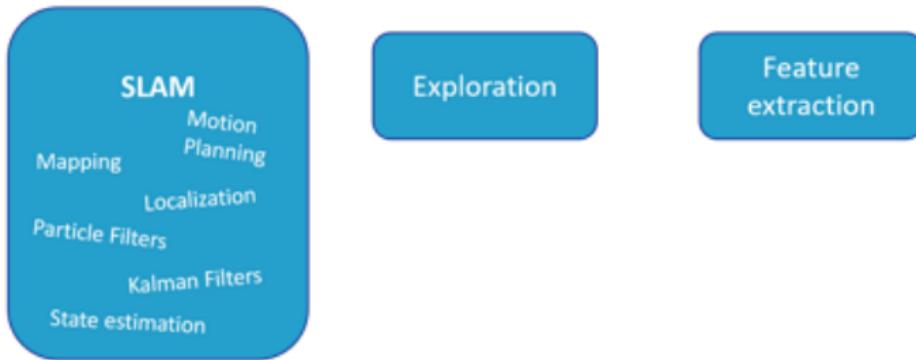
# Robotics in Search and Rescue

SLAM

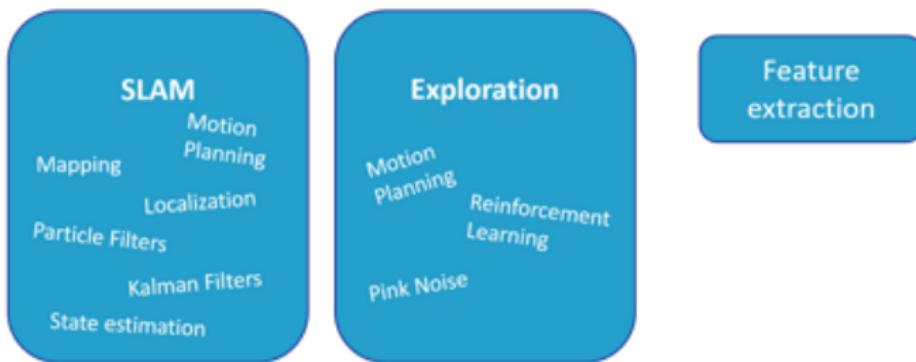
Exploration

Feature  
extraction

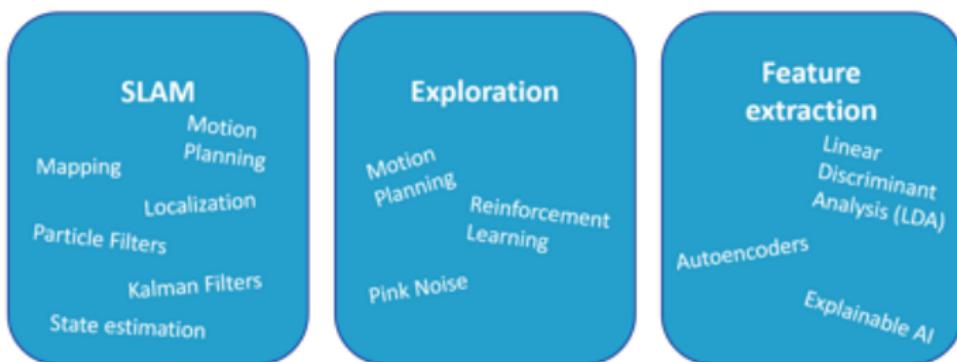
# Robotics in Search and Rescue



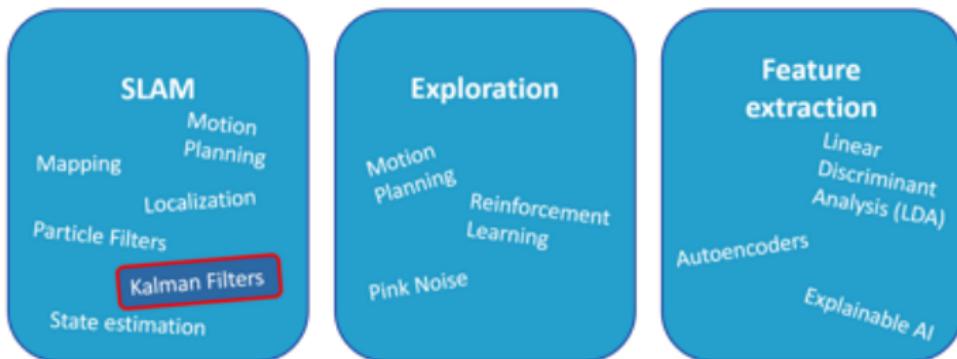
# Robotics in Search and Rescue



# Robotics in Search and Rescue



# Robotics in Search and Rescue



# **ROS2 - the robotics operating system**

---

# ROS2 - the robotics operating system

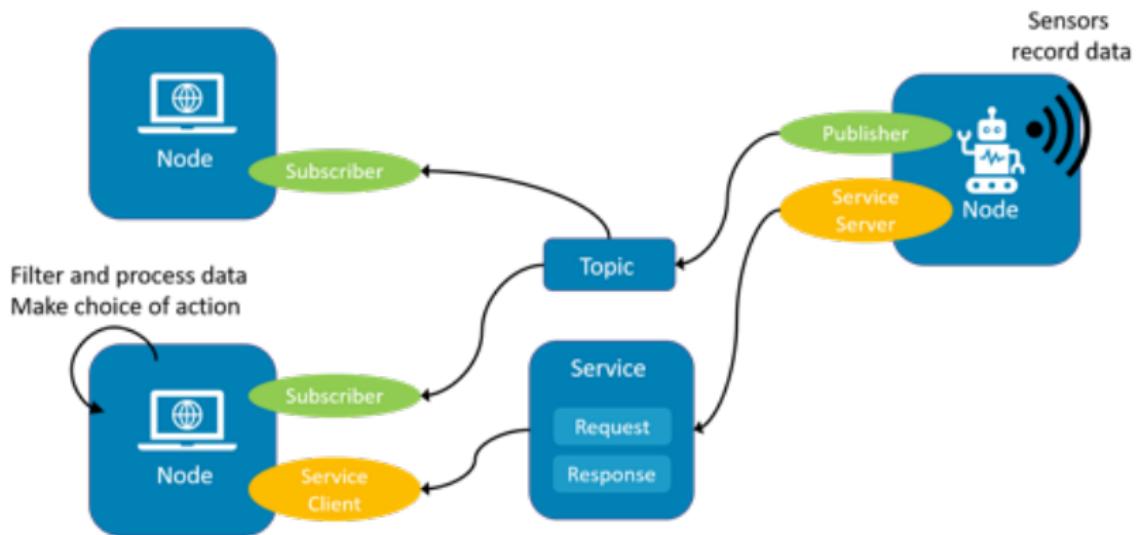


Figure 4: Ros2 Communication model

## ROS2 - the robotics operating system

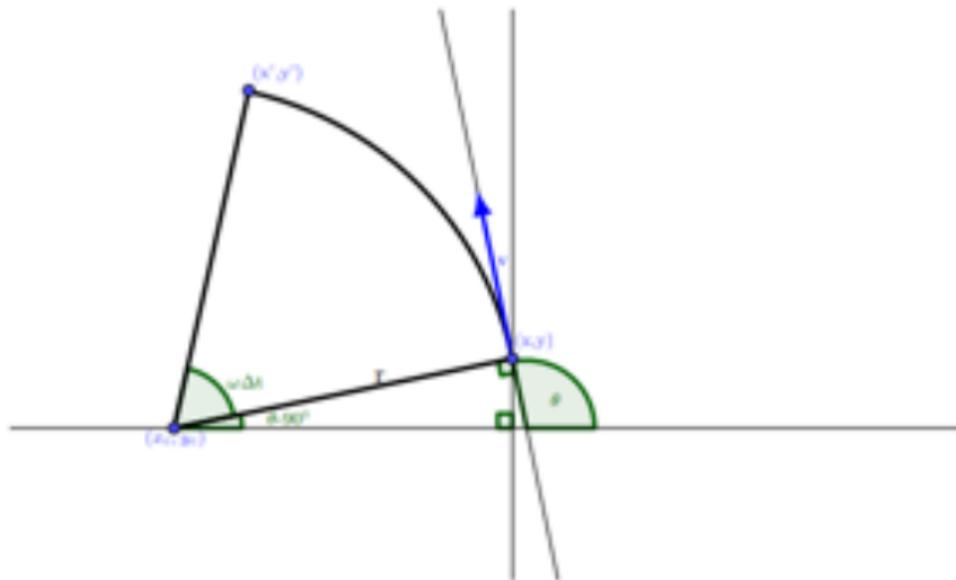


**Figure 5:** Map and Pose visualised in rviz on the client using the data published by the robot via a topic

## Motion models

---

## Velocity motion model



**Figure 6:** Representation of Velocity motion model

source: Seckler, 2D Robotic Mapping Using a Grid-Based Fast-SLAM Algorithm with Applications of Reinforcement Learning, 2020.

# Velocity Motion Model

Robot pose:  $\mathbf{x}_t = \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \\ \theta_t \end{pmatrix}$

Robot control :  $\mathbf{u}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{v}_t \\ \hat{\omega}_t \end{pmatrix}$

measurements :  $\mathbf{z}_t$

## Velocity Motion Model

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} \\ y_{t+1} \\ \theta_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \\ \theta_t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\hat{v}_t}{\hat{\omega}_t} \sin \theta_t + \frac{\hat{v}}{\hat{\omega}} \sin (\theta_t + \omega_t \Delta t) \\ \frac{\hat{v}}{\hat{\omega}_t} \cos \theta_t - \frac{\hat{v}}{\hat{\omega}} \sin (\theta_t + \omega \Delta t) \\ \hat{\omega} \Delta t + \hat{\gamma} \Delta t \end{pmatrix}$$

## Standard Odometry Model

- Movement from  $(x_t \quad y_t \quad \theta_t)$  to  $(x_{t+1} \quad y_{t+1} \quad \theta_{t+1})$

## Standard Odometry Model

- Movement from  $\begin{pmatrix} x_t & y_t & \theta_t \end{pmatrix}$  to  $\begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} & y_{t+1} & \theta_{t+1} \end{pmatrix}$
- Odometry information:  $u = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{rot1} & \delta_{trans} & \delta_{rot2} \end{pmatrix}$

## Standard Odometry Model

- Movement from  $\begin{pmatrix} x_t & y_t & \theta_t \end{pmatrix}$  to  $\begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} & y_{t+1} & \theta_{t+1} \end{pmatrix}$
- Odometry information:  $u = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{rot1} & \delta_{trans} & \delta_{rot2} \end{pmatrix}$

$$\delta_{trans} = \sqrt{(x_{t+1} - x_t)^2 + (y_{t+1} - y_t)^2}$$

$$\delta_{rot1} = \text{atan2}(y_{t+1} - y_t, x_{t+1} - x_t) - \theta_t$$

$$\delta_{rot2} = \theta_{t+1} - \theta_t - \delta_{rot1}$$

# Standard Odometry Model

- Movement from  $(x_t \quad y_t \quad \theta_t)$  to  $(x_{t+1} \quad y_{t+1} \quad \theta_{t+1})$
- Odometry information:  $u = (\delta_{rot1} \quad \delta_{trans} \quad \delta_{rot2})$

$$\delta_{trans} = \sqrt{(x_{t+1} - x_t)^2 + (y_{t+1} - y_t)^2}$$

$$\delta_{rot1} = \text{atan2}(y_{t+1} - y_t, x_{t+1} - x_t) - \theta_t$$

$$\delta_{rot2} = \theta_{t+1} - \theta_t - \delta_{rot1}$$

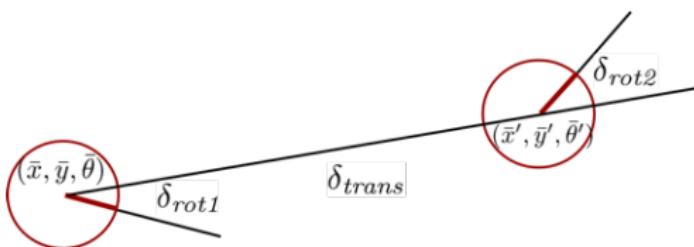


Figure 7: Odometry Motion Model representation

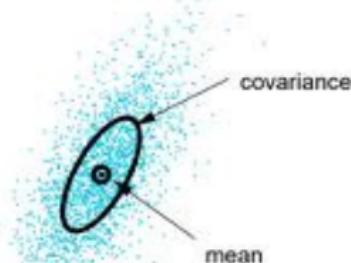
source: Stachniss (TU Bonn), Course: Robot Mapping, 2014

## **Unscented Kalman Filter**

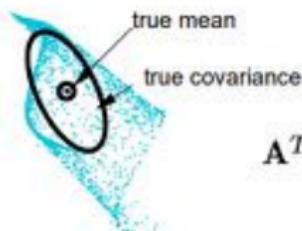
---

# Comparison of Filtering approaches

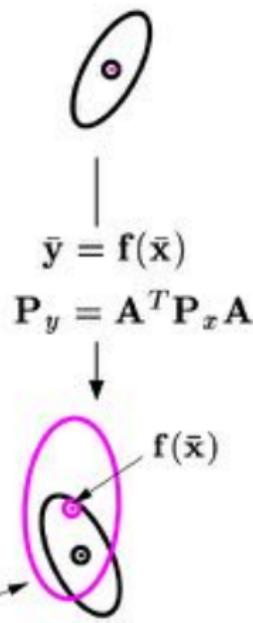
Actual (sampling)



$$y = f(x)$$

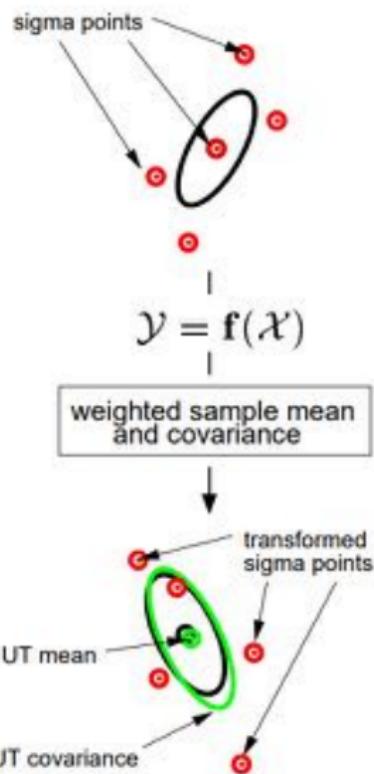


Linearized (EKF)



$$A^T P_x A$$

UT



# Extended Kalman Filter

---

**Algorithm 1** Extended Kalman Filter

---

- 1:  $\bar{\mu}_t = g(u_t, \mu_{t-1})$
  - 2:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = G_t \Sigma_{t-1} G_t^T + R_t$
  - 3:  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$
  - 4:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
  - 5:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
  - 6: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$
-

## EKF to UKF (1)

- 1:  $\bar{\mu}_t = g(u_t, \mu_{t-1})$
- 2:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = G_t \Sigma_{t-1} G_t^T + R_t$
- 3:  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$
- 4:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
- 5:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
- 6: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

# EKF to UKF (1)

---

- 1:  $\bar{\mu}_t$  = calculate  $\bar{\mu}$  by computing Sigma Points
- 2:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t$  = propagation of motion of Sigma Points
  
- 3:  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$
- 4:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
- 5:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
- 6: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

# EKF to UKF(1) - Unscented Transform

## ■ Sigma Points

$$\chi^{[0]} = \mu$$

$$\chi^{[i]} = \mu + (\sqrt{(n + \lambda)\Sigma})_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\chi^{[i]} = \mu - (\sqrt{(n + \lambda)\Sigma})_{i-n} \quad \text{for } i = n + 1, \dots, 2n$$

## ■ Weights

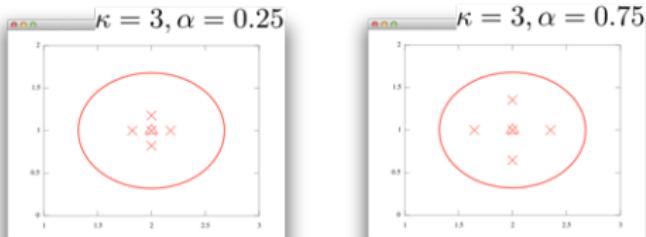
$$w_m^{[0]} = \frac{\lambda}{n + \lambda}$$

$$w_c^{[0]} = w_m^{[0]} + (1 + \alpha^2 + \beta)$$

$$w_m^{[i]} = w_c^{[i]} = \frac{1}{2(n + \lambda)} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, 2n$$

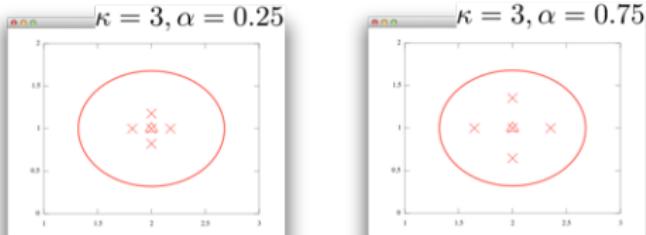
source: Julier et al., The Scaled Unscented Transformation, 2002.

# EKF to UKF(1) - Unscented Transform



**Figure 9:** source: Stachniss (TU Bonn), Course: Robot Mapping, 2014

# EKF to UKF(1) - Unscented Transform



**Figure 9:** source: Stachniss (TU Bonn), Course: Robot Mapping, 2014

## ■ Choice of Parameters

$$\kappa \geq 0$$

$$\alpha \in (0, 1]$$

$$\lambda = \alpha^2(n + \kappa) - n$$

$$\beta = 2 \quad \text{for Gaussians}$$

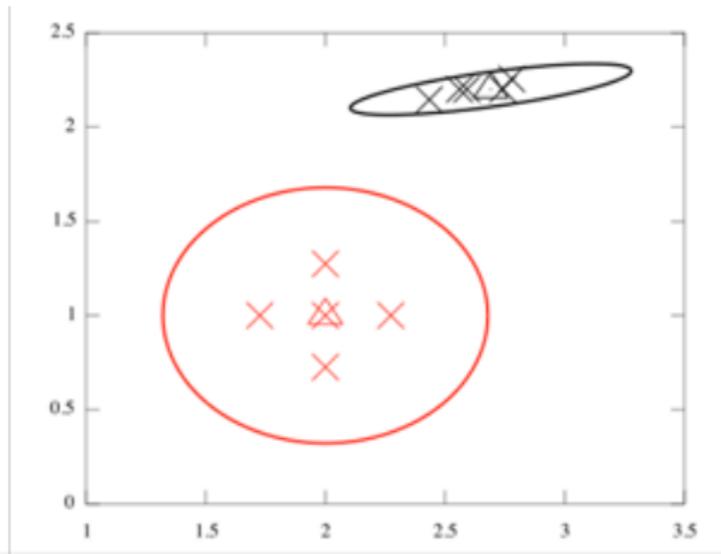
source: Julier et al., The Scaled Unscented Transformation, 2002.

## EKF to UKF (1)

---

- 1:  $\chi_{t-1} = (\mu_{t-1} \quad \mu_{t-1} + (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n$   
 $\mu_{t-1} - (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})_{i-n} \text{ for } i = n+1, \dots, 2n )$
- 2:  $\bar{\chi}_t^* = g(u_t, \chi_{t-1})$
- 3:  $\bar{\mu}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]}$
- 4:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)^T + R_t$
- 5:  $\bar{\chi}_t = \frac{(\bar{\mu}_t \quad \bar{\mu}_t + (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t})_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n}{\bar{\mu}_t - (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t})_{i-n} \text{ for } i = n+1, \dots, 2n )}$
- 6:  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$
- 7:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
- 8:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
- 9: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

## EKF to UKF (1)



$$g((x, y)^T) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + x + \sin(2x) + \cos(y) \\ 2 + 0.2y \end{pmatrix}^T$$

source: Stachniss (TU Bonn), Course: Robot Mapping, 2014

## EKF to UKF (2)

- 1:  $\chi_{t-1} = (\mu_{t-1} \quad \mu_{t-1} + (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n$   
 $\mu_{t-1} - (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})_{i-n} \text{ for } i = n+1, \dots, 2n )$
- 2:  $\bar{\chi}_t^* = g(u_t, \chi_{t-1})$
- 3:  $\bar{\mu}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]}$
- 4:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)^T + R_t$
- 5:  $\bar{\chi}_t = (\bar{\mu}_t \quad \bar{\mu}_t + (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t})_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n$   
 $\bar{\mu}_t - (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t})_{i-n} \text{ for } i = n+1, \dots, 2n )$
- 6:  $K_t =$  Compute expected observations and Kalman Gain using  
Sigma Points
- 7:  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$
- 8:  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
- 9: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

## EKF to UKF (2)

$$6: \bar{\mathcal{Z}} = h(\bar{\chi}_t)$$

$$7: \hat{z}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]}$$

$$8: S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t) (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T + Q_t$$

$$9: \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\chi}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t) (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T$$

$$10: K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} S_t^{-1}$$

$$11: \mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t (z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t))$$

$$12: \Sigma_t = (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$$

13: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

## EKF to UKF (3)

---

$$6: \bar{\mathcal{Z}} = h(\bar{\chi}_t)$$

$$7: \hat{z}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]}$$

$$8: S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t) (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T + Q_t$$

$$9: \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\chi}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t) (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T$$

$$10: K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} S_t^{-1}$$

$$11: \mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t (z_t - \hat{z}_{\textcolor{red}{t}}))$$

$$12: \Sigma_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t S_t K_t^T$$

13: return  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$

# Unscented Kalman Filter i

- 1:  $\chi_{t-1} = (\mu_{t-1} \quad \mu_{t-1} + (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n \\ \mu_{t-1} - (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\Sigma_{t-1}})_{i-n} \text{ for } i = n+1, \dots, 2n)$
- 2:  $\bar{\chi}_t^* = g(u_t, \chi_{t-1})$
- 3:  $\bar{\mu} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]}$
- 4:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\chi}_t^{*[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)^T + R_t$
- 5:  $\bar{\chi}_t = (\bar{\mu}_t \quad \bar{\mu}_t + (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t})_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n \\ \bar{\mu}_t - (\sqrt{(n+\lambda)\bar{\Sigma}_t})_{i-n} \text{ for } i = n+1, \dots, 2n)$
- 6:  $\bar{\mathcal{Z}} = h(\bar{\chi}_t)$
- 7:  $\hat{z}_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_m^{[i]} \bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]}$
- 8:  $S_t = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T + Q_t$
- 9:  $\bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} w_c^{[i]} (\bar{\chi}_t^{[i]} - \bar{\mu}_t)(\bar{\mathcal{Z}}_t^{[i]} - \hat{z}_t)^T$
- 10:  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t^{x,z} S_t^{-1}$

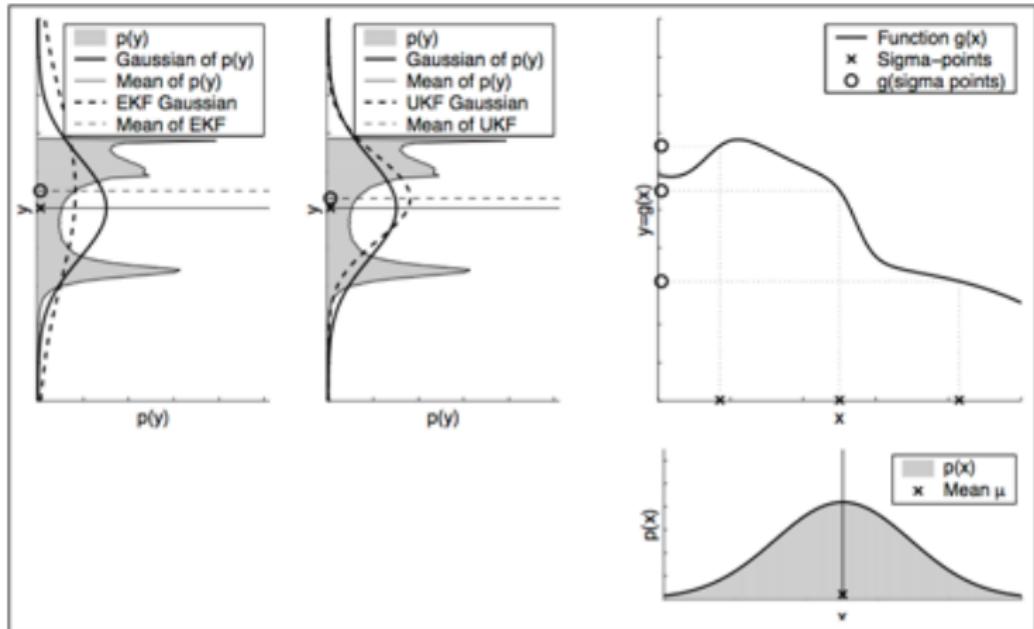
## Unscented Kalman Filter ii

$$11: \mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - \hat{z}_t)$$

$$12: \Sigma_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t S_t K_t^T$$

13: return  $\mu, \Sigma_t$

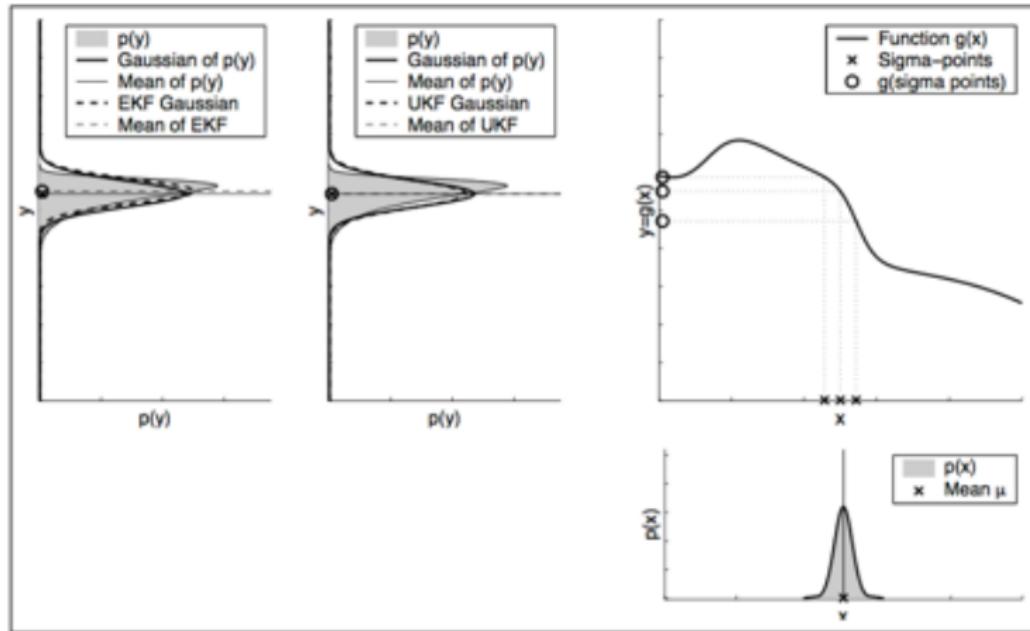
# Comparison of EKF and UKF



**Figure 10:** EKF and UKF in a normal setting of a non linear function

source: Thrun et al.: "Probabilistic Robotics", Chapter 3.4, 2005.

# Comparison of EKF and UKF - Small Covariance



**Figure 11:** EKF and UKF in a setting of a non linear function with small covariance

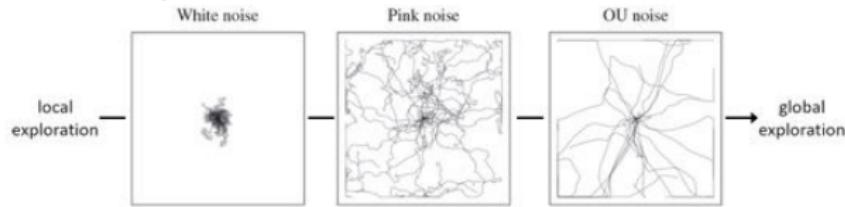
source: Thrun et al.: "Probabilistic Robotics", Chapter 3.4, 2005.

## **Outlook**

---

# Outlook

## ■ Pink Noise for exploration

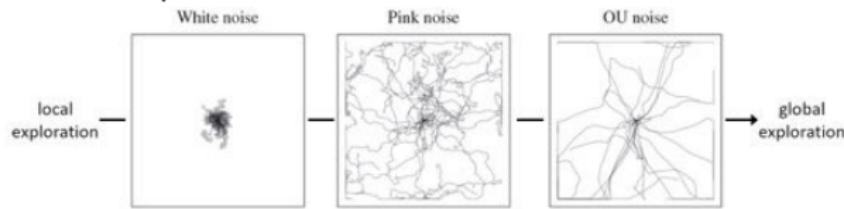


**Figure 12:** Pink Noise performs better in exploration tasks

source: Eberhard et al.. Pink Noise Is All You Need. 2023.

# Outlook

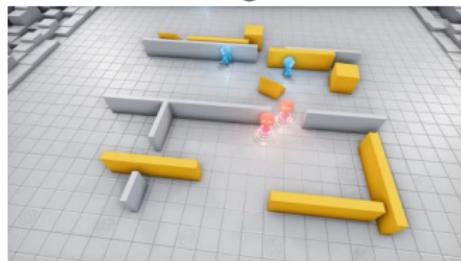
- Pink Noise for exploration



**Figure 12:** Pink Noise performs better in exploration tasks

source: Eberhard et al.. Pink Noise Is All You Need. 2023.

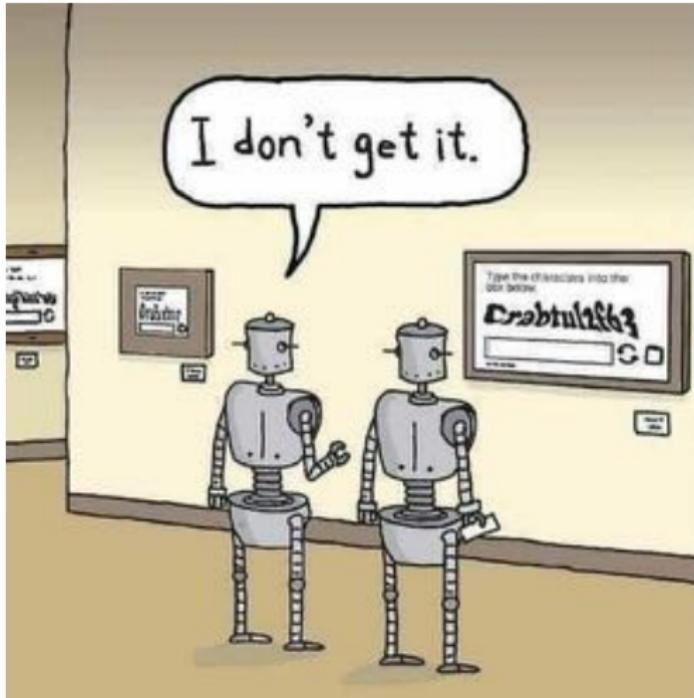
- MultiAgent Reinforcement Learning



**Figure 13:** Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning with Hide and Seek (OpenAI)

OpenAI. Emergent tool use from multi-agent interaction

## Interested in Robotics? - Come visit us!



**Figure 14:** source: <https://www.memedroid.com/memes/detail/3796469/captcha?refGallery=tags&page=1&tag=robot>

## EKF to UKF (3) - BACKUP

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_t &= (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t \\&= \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t \\&= \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t (\bar{\Sigma}^{x,z})^T \\&= \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t (\bar{\Sigma}^{x,z} S_t^{-1} S_t)^T \\&= \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t (K_t S_t)^T \\&= \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t S_t^T K_t^T \\&= \bar{\Sigma}_t - K_t S_t K_t^T\end{aligned}$$