

# **Signals, Instruments, and Systems – W10**

## **Dealing with Non-Deterministic Uncertainties in Localization**

# Outline

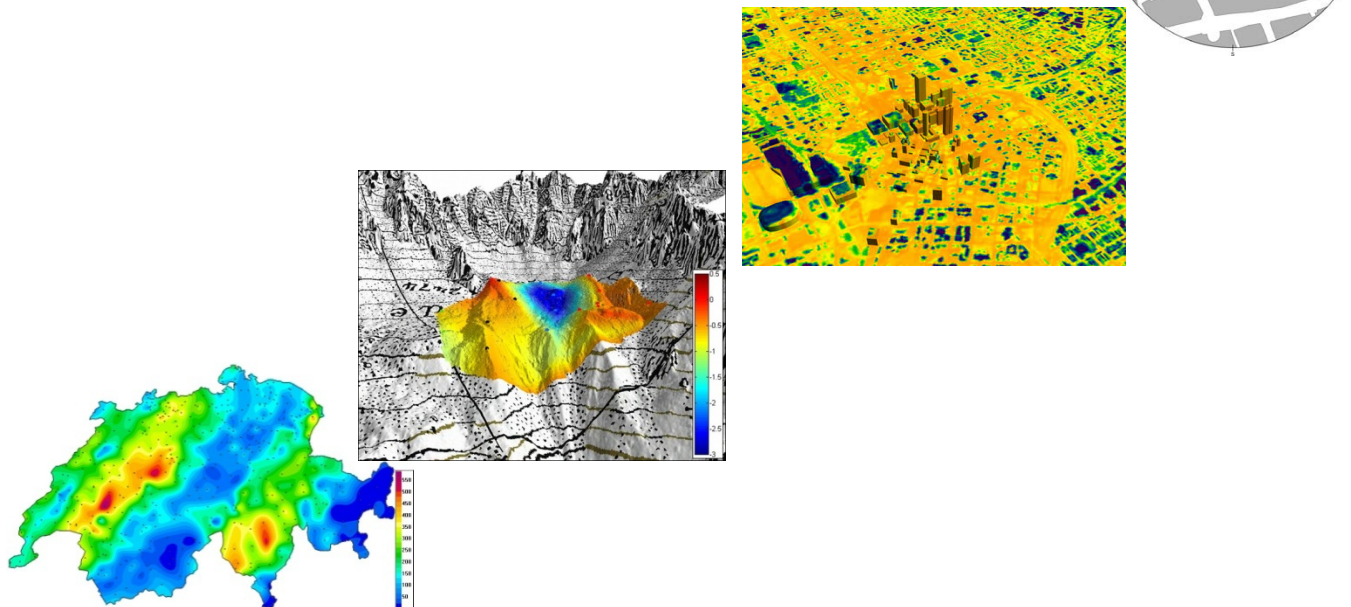
- Motivation for localization and estimation methods
- Fusing information from noisy processes and noisy sensing: the Kalman Filter algorithm in 1D problems
- Localization using proprioceptive sensors with non-deterministic uncertainties
- Feature-based localization
- Kalman filter algorithm for 2D localization
- Particle filters for localization



# **Motivation for Localization and Sensor Fusion**

# Motivation for Localization

- Environmental data most often useless without location information
- Localization is required at different scales (1000's km  $\rightarrow$  cm)



*Pictures: courtesy of Sensorscope, NASA, NIST*

# Motivation for Stochastic Models and Estimation Methods

- A mathematical system model is necessarily an approximation of the real system: system **structure** is often appropriate but **parameters** are affected by uncertainties
- **Non-deterministic sources of noise**: we can neither control stochastic disturbances, nor get rid of stochastic sensor noise by calibration, nor model stochastic sources deterministically
- Sensors are **noisy** and can only **partially observe** the system state in all its details

# Motivation for Stochastic Models and Estimation Methods

- The applicability of estimation methods goes way **beyond localization problem**
- To this purpose **most diverse problems in environmental and civil engineering** leverage Kalman filters for handling noisy processes and sensing
- Here are some examples I found in recent literature:
  - Improving accuracy of subsurface contaminant transport model
  - Improving in-situ monitoring of groundwater contamination
  - Identification of civil structural parameters
  - Improving predictive modeling of landslide deformation
  - Improving estimation of environmental performance variables in an acid gas removal process

# The Kalman Filter Algorithm in 1D

# Two Key Sources of Information

## Stochastic models, estimation, and control VOLUME 1

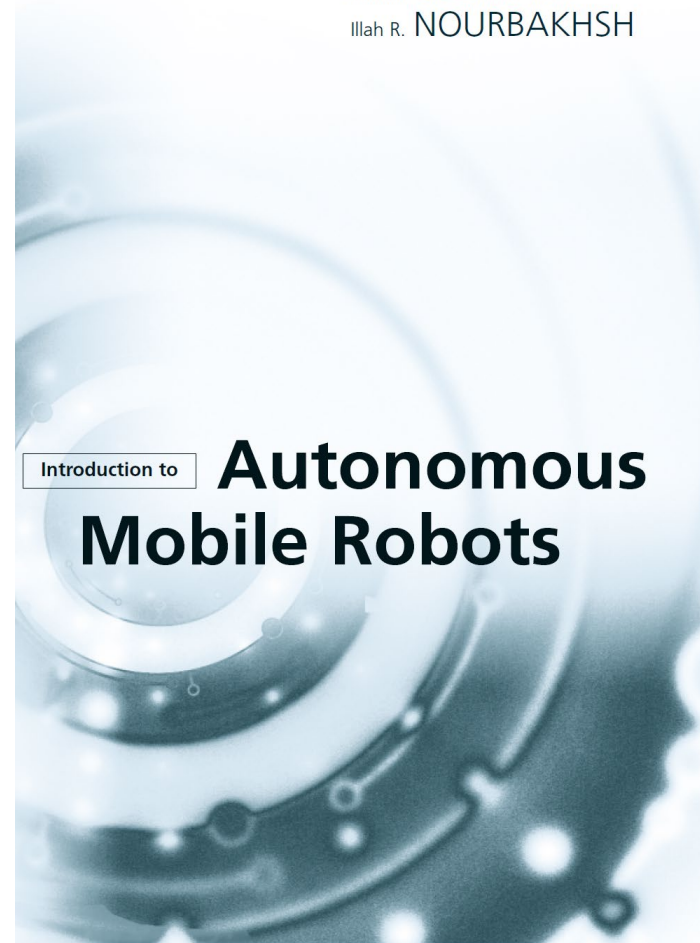
*PETER S. MAYBECK*

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
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WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE  
OHIO



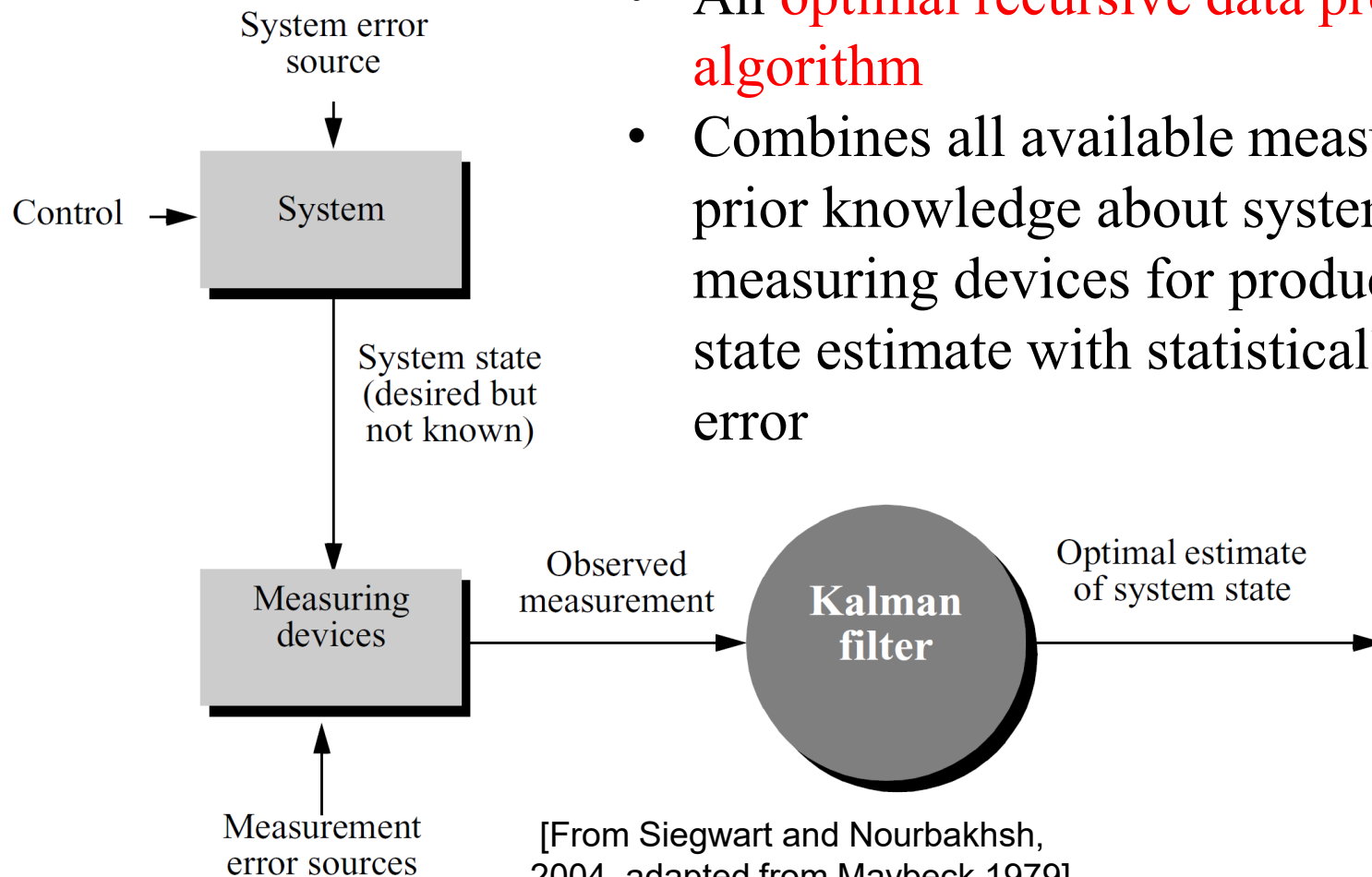
ACADEMIC PRESS New York San Francisco London 1979  
A Subsidiary of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers

Roland SIEGWART  
Illah R. NOURBAKHS





# Kalman Filter - Overview



[From Siegwart and Nourbakhsh, 2004, adapted from Maybeck 1979]

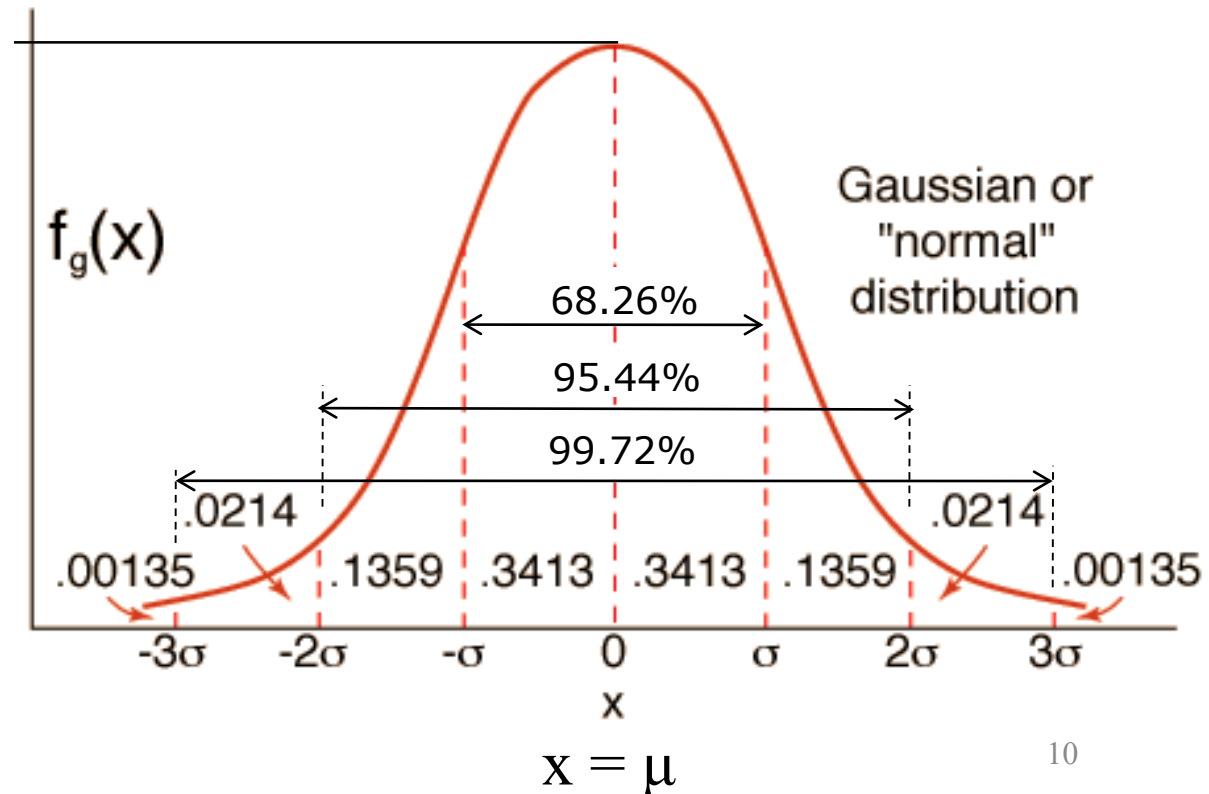
# Kalman Filter - Assumptions

- **Linear** system model
- **White Gaussian** system and measurement noise

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

## Notes on noise:

- White: uncorrelated in time
- Gaussian: probability density of amplitude follows bell-shaped curve



# A Simple 1D Positioning Example

$t$  = time

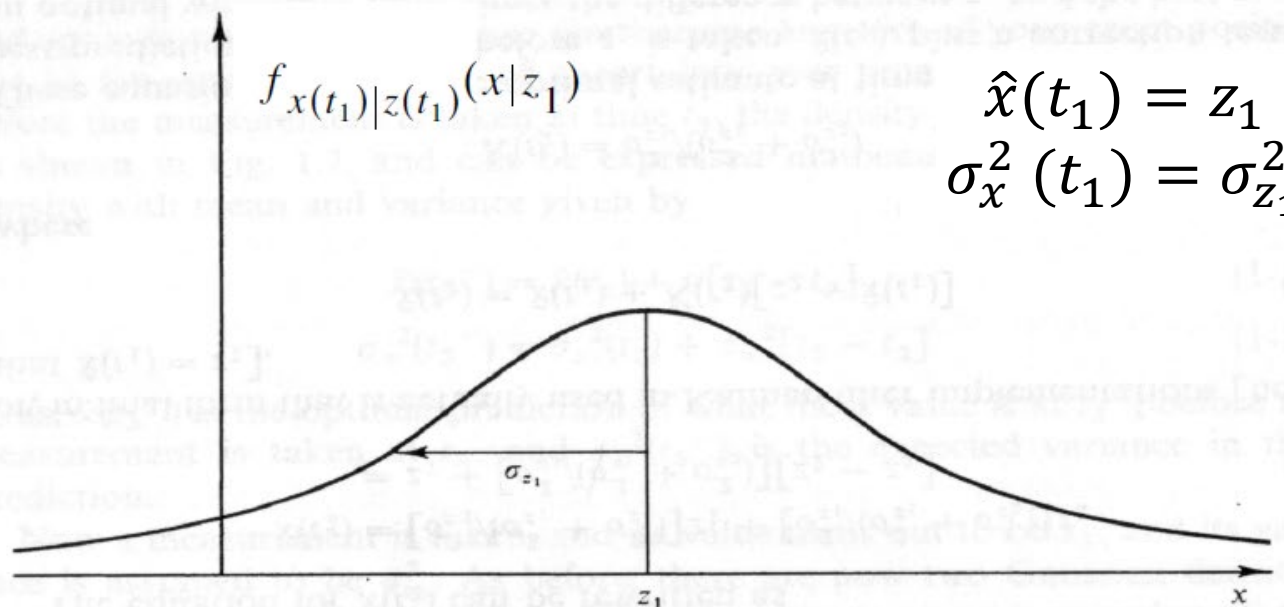
$x$  = 1D position

$\hat{x}$  = 1D position estimate

$z$  = measurement or observation

$t_i$  = time instant  $i$

$z_i$  = measurement taken at  $t_i$

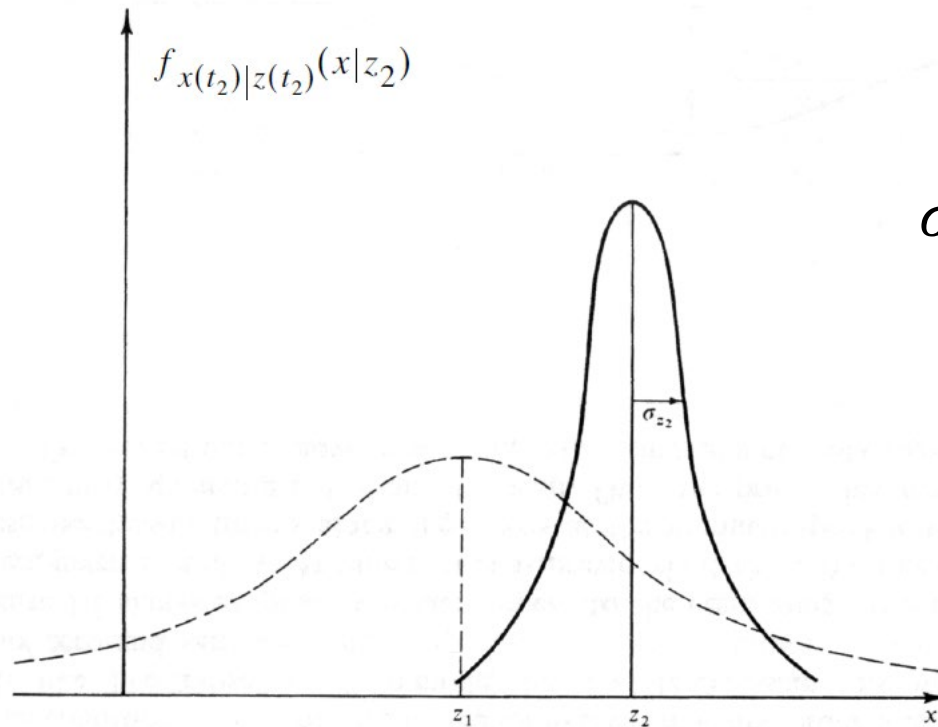


$$\hat{x}(t_1) = z_1$$

$$\sigma_x^2(t_1) = \sigma_{z_1}^2$$

# Estimation Based on Static Measurements

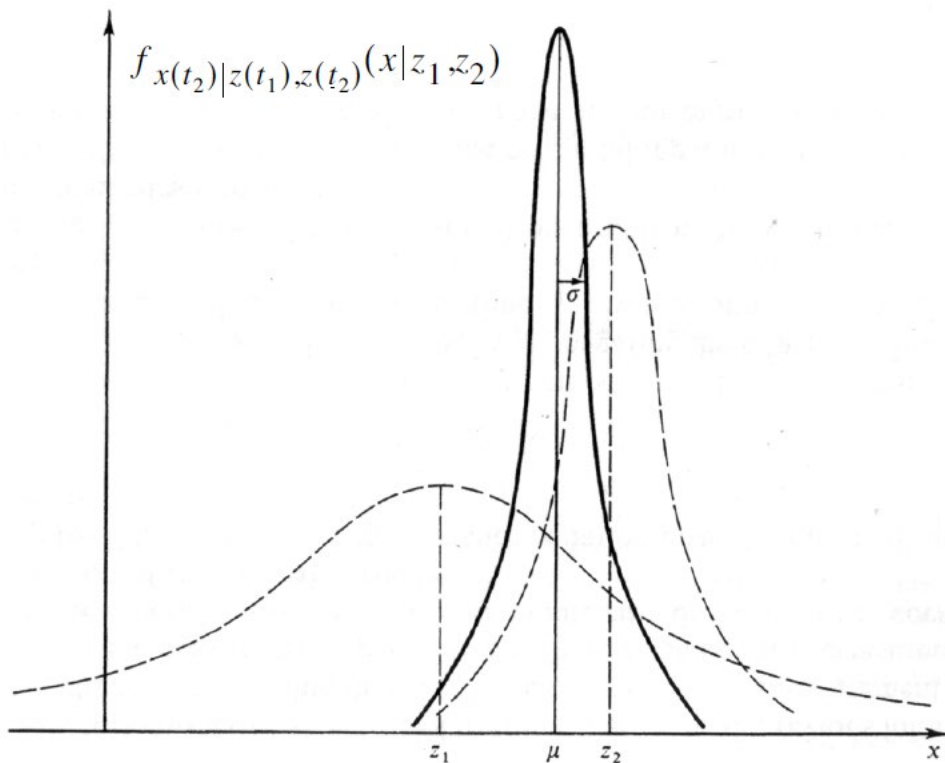
- Second measurement taken at  $t_2 \approx t_1$
- The smaller  $\sigma$ , the higher the certitude about the measurement



$$\hat{x}(t_2) = z_2$$
$$\sigma_x^2(t_2) = \sigma_{z_2}^2$$

# Improving the Estimate Through Fusion

- Intuition: the smaller  $\sigma$ , and thus  $\sigma^2$ , the higher should be the weight in the fused estimate
- Estimate can be obtained as a weighted average  $\mu$  of the individual measurement contributions



$$\mu = \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma_{z_1}^2} z_1 + \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_2}^2} z_2}{\frac{1}{\sigma_{z_1}^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_2}^2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_1}^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_2}^2}$$

$$\hat{x}(t_2) = \mu$$

$$\sigma_x(t_2) = \sigma$$

$$\sigma < \sigma_{z_1} \text{ and } \sigma < \sigma_{z_2}$$

# Mean of the new Estimate

$$\hat{x}(t_2) = \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma_{z_1}^2} z_1 + \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_2}^2} z_2}{\frac{1}{\sigma_{z_1}^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_2}^2}} = \frac{\sigma_{z_2}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_1 + \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_2$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_{z_2}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_1 + \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_1 - \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_1 + \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_2$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_{z_2}^2 + \sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} z_1 + \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} (z_2 - z_1)$$

$$= z_1 + \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} (z_2 - z_1)$$

Kalman filter formulation

$$\hat{x}(t_2) = \hat{x}(t_1) + K(t_2)[z_2 - \hat{x}(t_1)]$$

$$\text{with } K(t_2) = \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2}$$

$$\hat{x}(t_1) = z_1$$

# Variance of the new Estimate

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_x^2(t_2)} = \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_1}^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{z_2}^2}$$

$$\sigma_x^2(t_2) = \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2 \sigma_{z_2}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} = \frac{\sigma_{z_2}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} \sigma_{z_1}^2 = \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2 - \sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} \sigma_{z_1}^2 = \left(1 - \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2}\right) \sigma_{z_1}^2$$

$$= \sigma_{z_1}^2 - \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2} \sigma_{z_1}^2$$

Kalman filter  
formulation

$$\sigma_x^2(t_2) = \sigma_x^2(t_1) - K(t_2)\sigma_x^2(t_1)$$

$$\text{with } K(t_2) = \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2}$$

$$\sigma_x^2(t_1) = \sigma_{z_1}^2$$

# Kalman Filter for Sensor Fusion

$$\hat{x}(t_2) = \hat{x}(t_1) + K(t_2)[z_2 - \hat{x}(t_1)]$$

**Mean**


 Prediction
  Correction or Update

$$\sigma_x^2(t_2) = \sigma_x^2(t_1) - K(t_2) \sigma_x^2(t_1)$$

**Variance**

$$K(t_2) = \frac{\sigma_{z_1}^2}{\sigma_{z_1}^2 + \sigma_{z_2}^2}$$

**Kalman  
Gain**


 Function of the  
sensing precision



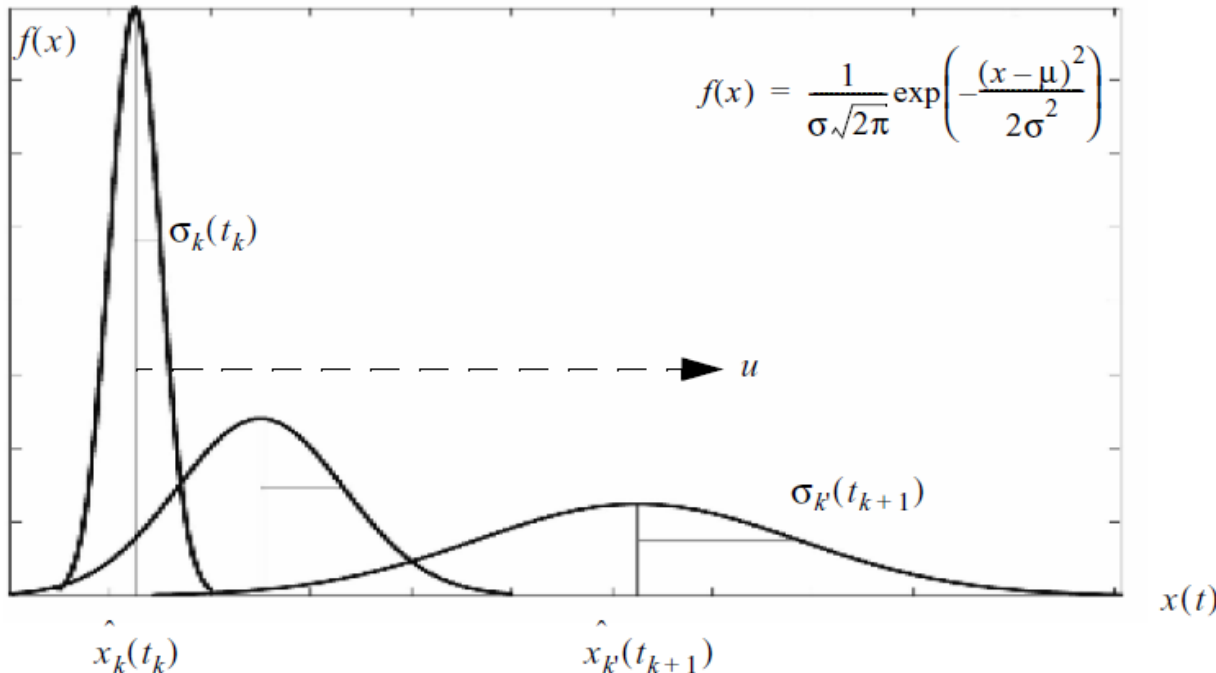
# Estimation Considering Motion Dynamics

Consider a simple but noisy motion model:  $\dot{x} = u + w$

$u$  = constant speed (controllable input)

$w$  = Gaussian motion noise

$$w = \sigma_w^2$$



$\sigma_k^2$ : variance at  
timestep  $k$   
(known)

$\sigma_{k'}^2$ : variance at  
timestep  $k+1$

[From Siegwart and Nourbakhsh,  
2004, adapted from Maybeck 1979]

# Estimation Based on Motion Model

$$\hat{x}_{k'} = \hat{x}_k + u[t_{k+1} - t_k]$$

- New mean position at timestep  $t_{k+1}$
- Can be estimated with deterministic displacement from motion model

$$\sigma_{k'}^2 = \sigma_k^2 + \sigma_w^2[t_{k+1} - t_k]$$

- New variance at timestep  $t_{k+1}$
- Variance of noisy motion (constant over time) gets added (cumulated) to previous one

# Fusing Motion Model Prediction with New Measurement - Mean

$$\hat{x}_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k'} + K_{k+1}(z_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k'}) \quad \text{with } K_{k+1} = \frac{\sigma_{k'}^2}{\sigma_{k'}^2 + \sigma_z^2}$$



Prediction based on  
motion model



Correction or update based  
on observation

$z_{k+1}$  : measurement at timestep  $k+1$

$K_{k+1}$  : Kalman gain at timestep  $k+1$

$\hat{x}_{k+1}$  : new estimate at timestep  $k+1$  incorporating observation and prediction of motion model

$\hat{x}_{k'}$  : estimate just before timestep  $k+1$  based on prediction motion model

# Fusing Motion Model Prediction with New Measurement - Variance

$$\sigma_{k+1}^2 = \sigma_{k'}^2 - K_{k+1} \sigma_{k'}^2 \quad \text{with } K_{k+1} = \frac{\sigma_{k'}^2}{\sigma_{k'}^2 + \sigma_z^2}$$



Prediction based on  
motion model



Correction or update based  
on observation

$K_{k+1}$  : Kalman gain at timestep  $k+1$

$\sigma_{k+1}^2$  : variance at timestep  $k+1$  incorporating correction from observation and prediction of motion model

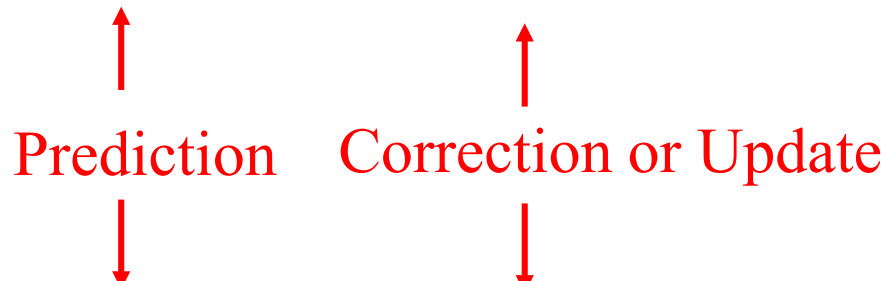
$\sigma_{k'}^2$  : variance just before timestep  $k+1$  based on prediction motion model

$\sigma_z^2$  : variance of the sensor measurement (constant over time)

# Kalman Filter

## for Sensor and Motion Model Fusion

$$\hat{x}_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k'} + K_{k+1}(z_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k'}) \quad \text{Mean}$$


  
 Prediction      Correction or Update

$$\sigma_{k+1}^2 = \sigma_{k'}^2 - K_{k+1} \sigma_{k'}^2 \quad \text{Variance}$$

$$K_{k+1} = \frac{\sigma_{k'}^2}{\sigma_{k'}^2 + \sigma_z^2}$$

**Kalman  
Gain**

Function of the motion  
model and sensing  
precision

# Kalman Filter - Some Extreme Cases

$$\hat{x}_{k+1} = \hat{x}_{k'} + K_{k+1} (z_{k+1} - \hat{x}_{k'})$$

$$\sigma_{k+1}^2 = \sigma_{k'}^2 - K_{k+1} \sigma_{k'}^2 \qquad K_{k+1} = \frac{\sigma_{k'}^2}{\sigma_{k'}^2 + \sigma_z^2}$$

$\sigma_z^2 \rightarrow \infty$  : new measurement extremely noisy, does not add information, then  $K_{k+1} \rightarrow 0$  new estimate based exclusively on motion model (both mean and variance)

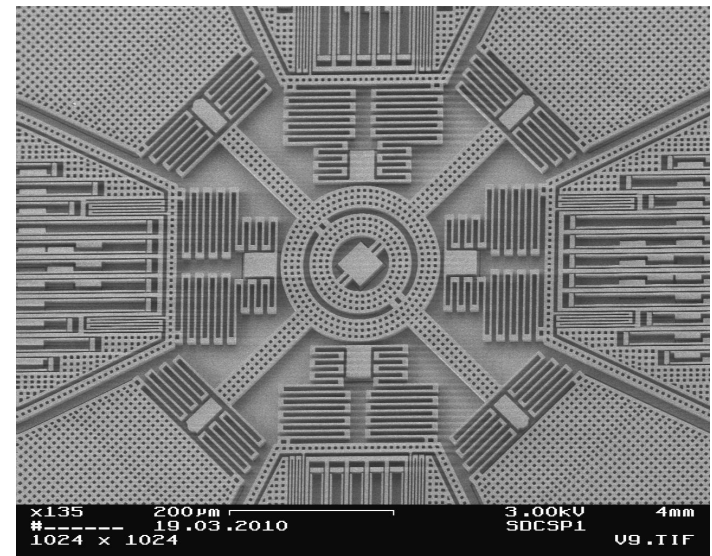
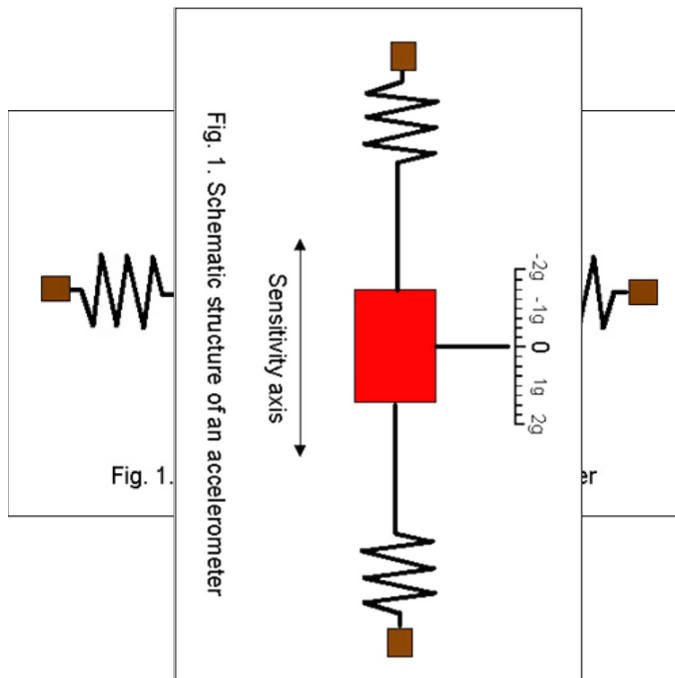
$\sigma_w^2 \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $\sigma_{k'}^2 \rightarrow \infty$  (see. s. 23): motion model does not add information, then  $K_{k+1} \rightarrow 1$  new estimate based exclusively on new observation

$\sigma_{k'}^2 \rightarrow 0$ , motion model is deterministic and perfectly reproducing the reality, then  $K_{k+1} \rightarrow 0$ , new measurement can be disregarded since model is giving a perfect estimate

# **Mitigating Localization Uncertainties in Odometry Through Exteroceptive Sensors – The 1D Case**

# Non-Deterministic Error Sources

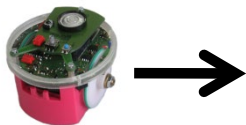
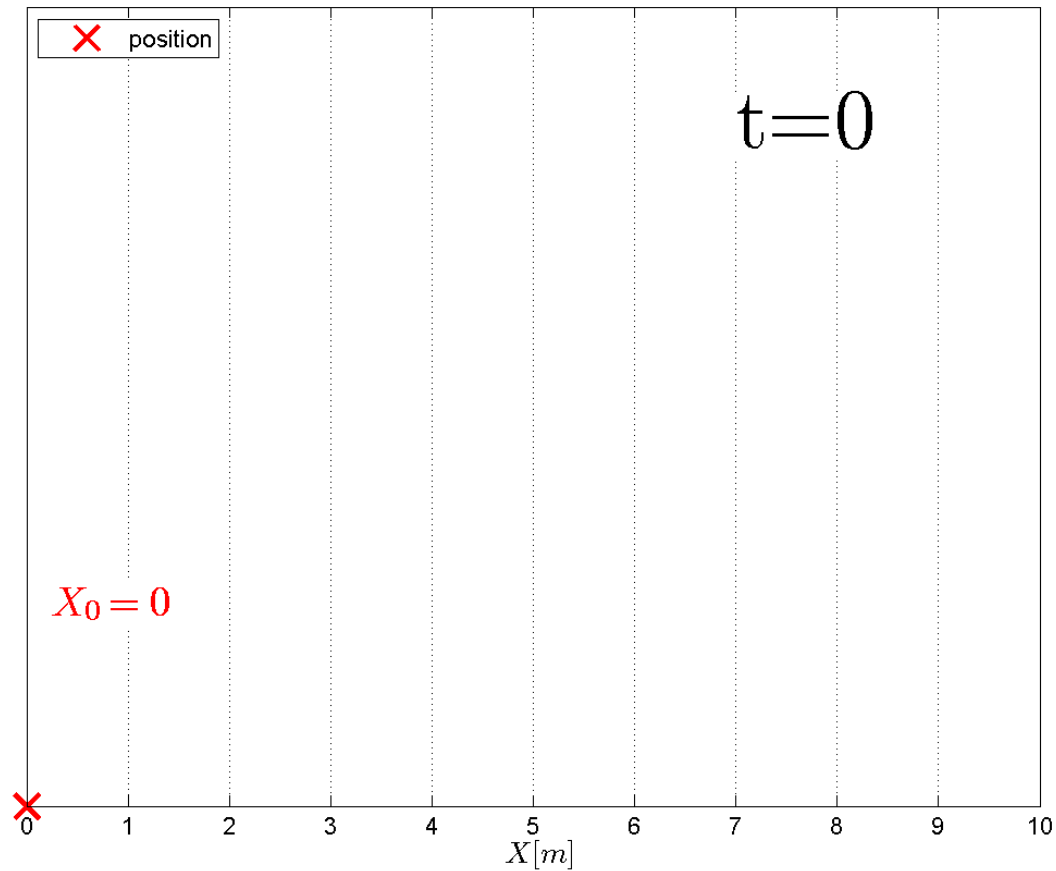
- From Week 9: no deterministic prediction possible  
→ we have to describe them **probabilistically**
- Example: accelerometer-based odometry



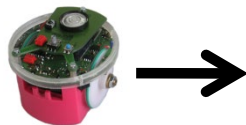
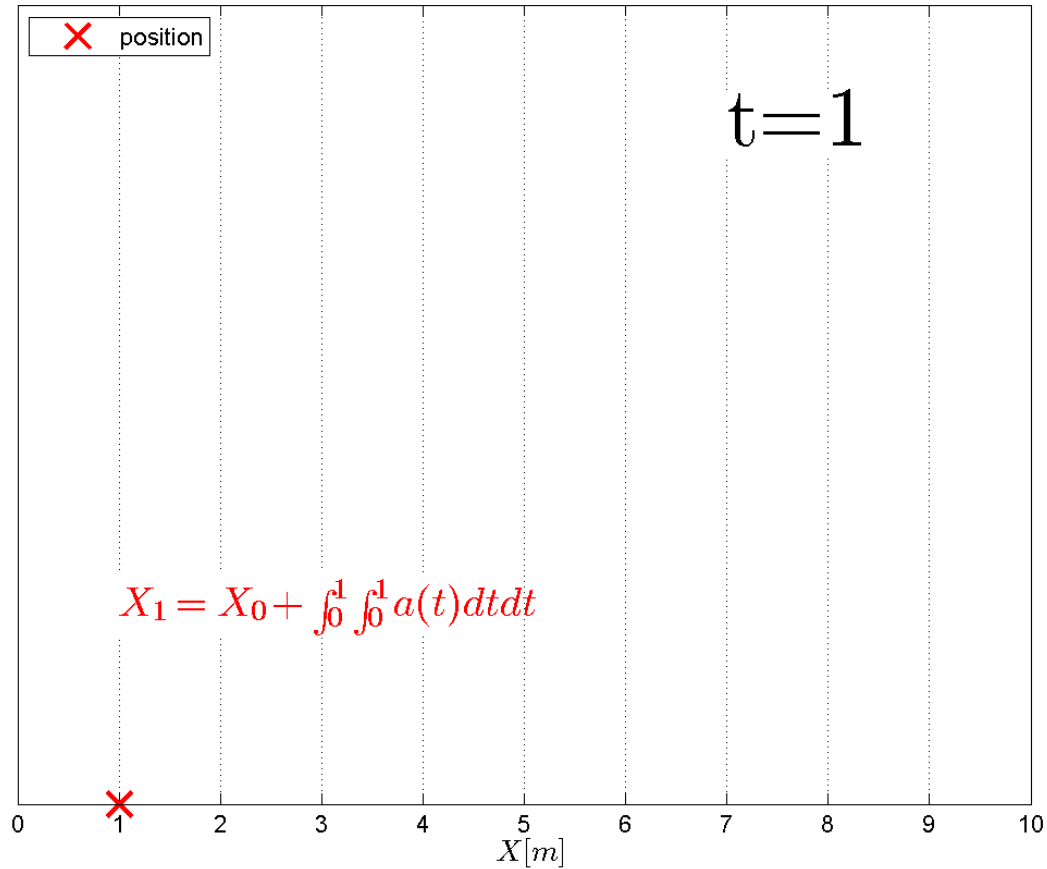
MEMS-Based accelerometer  
(e.g., on e-puck)



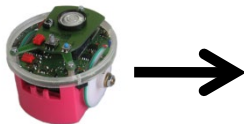
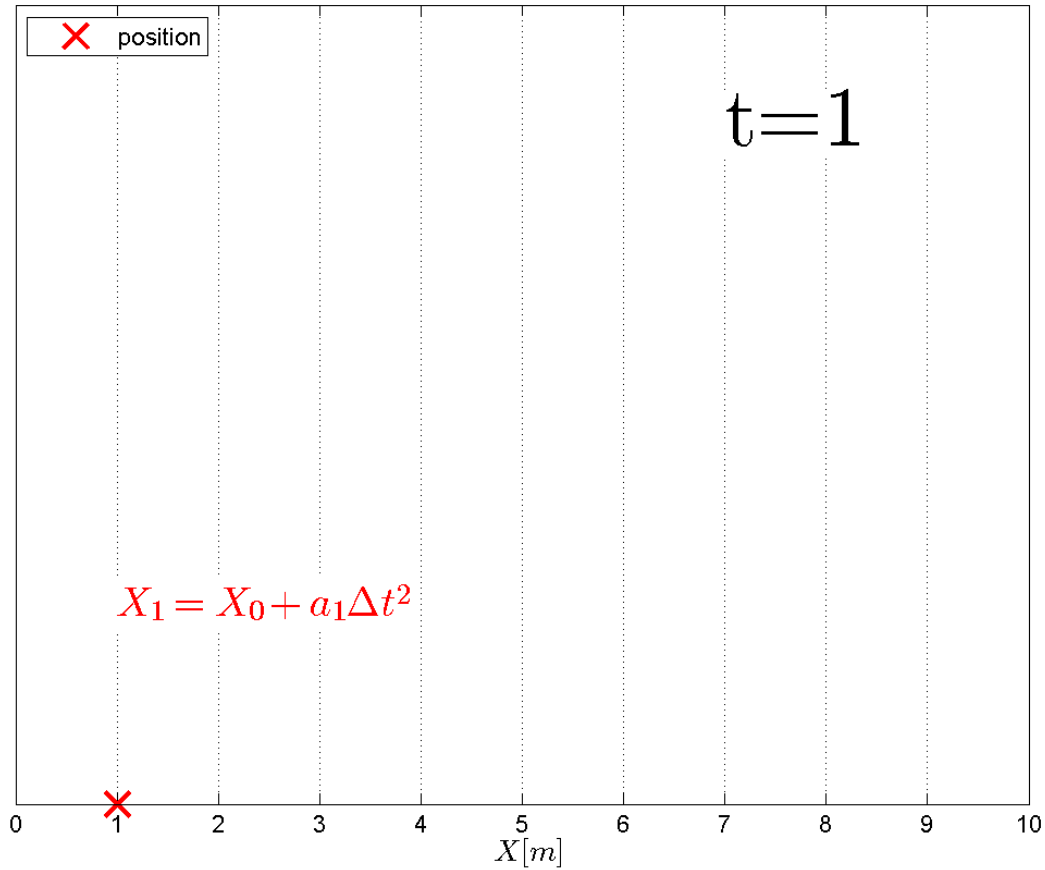
# Odometry in 1D



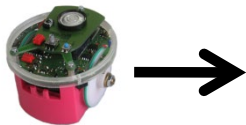
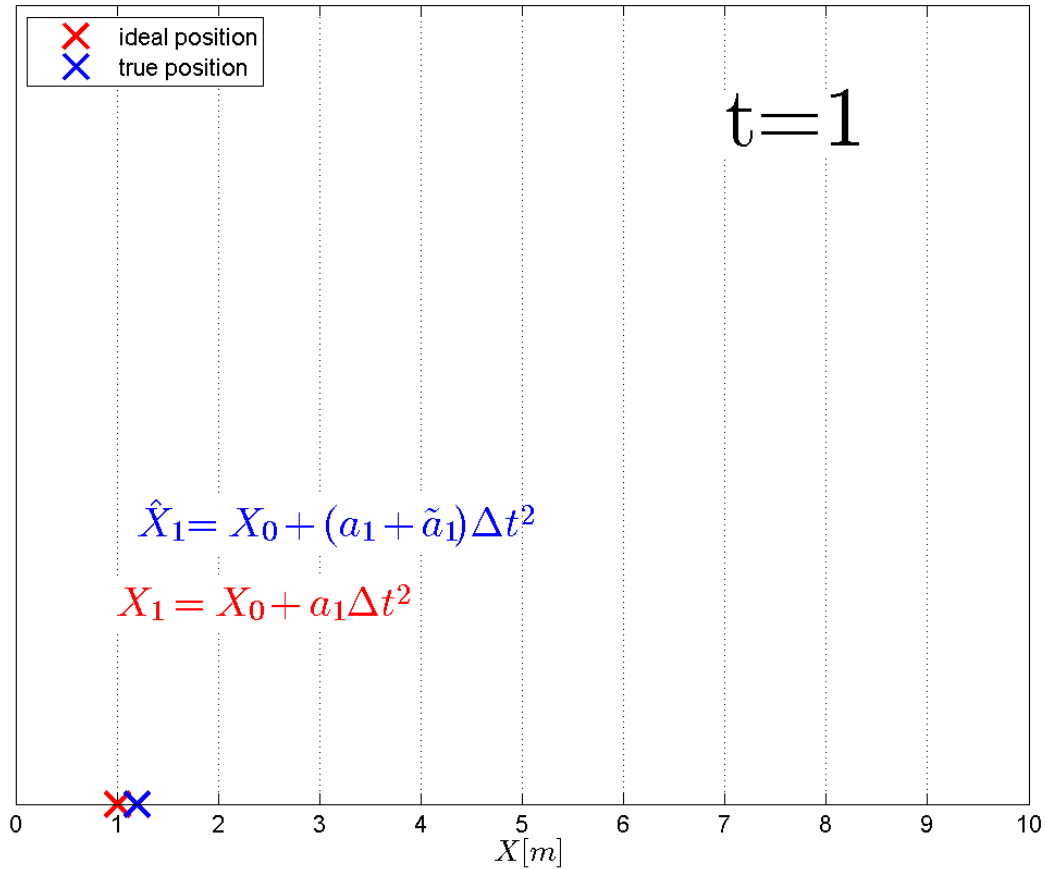
# Odometry in 1D



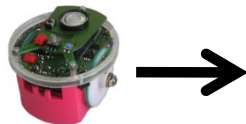
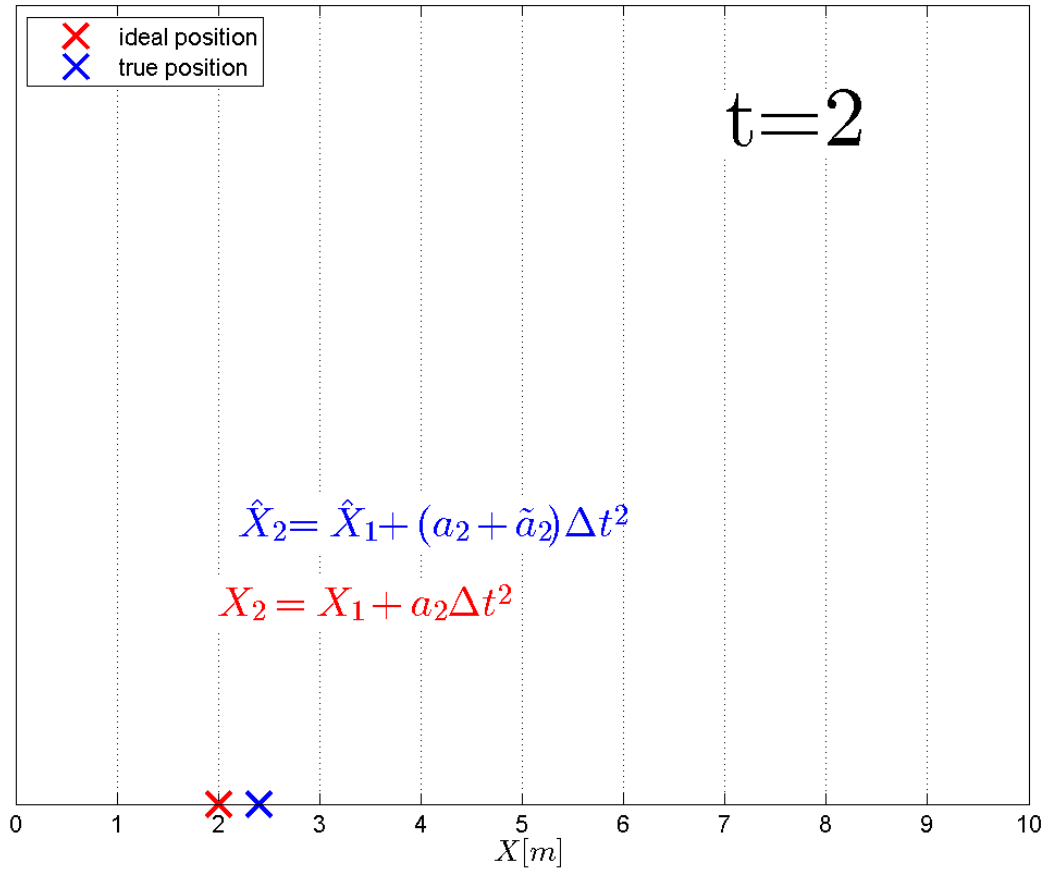
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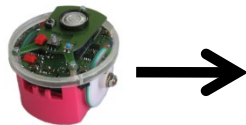
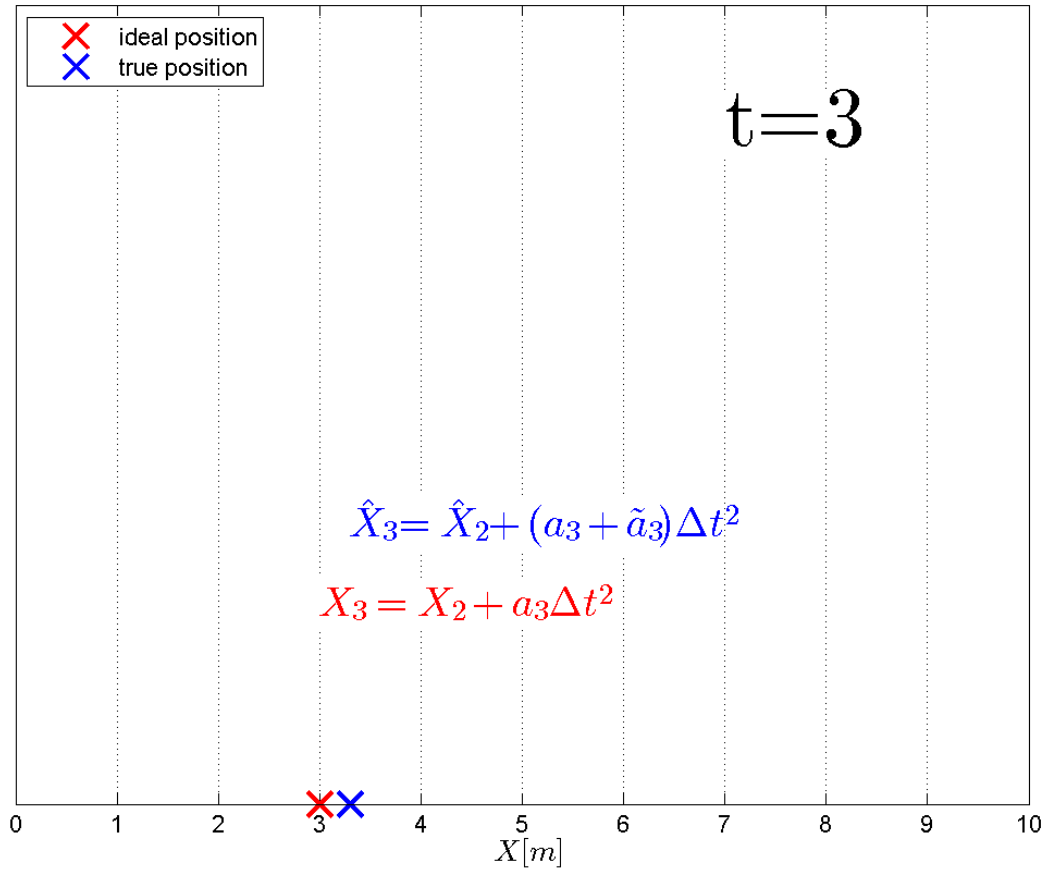
# Odometry in 1D



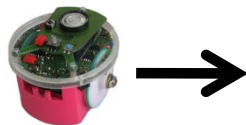
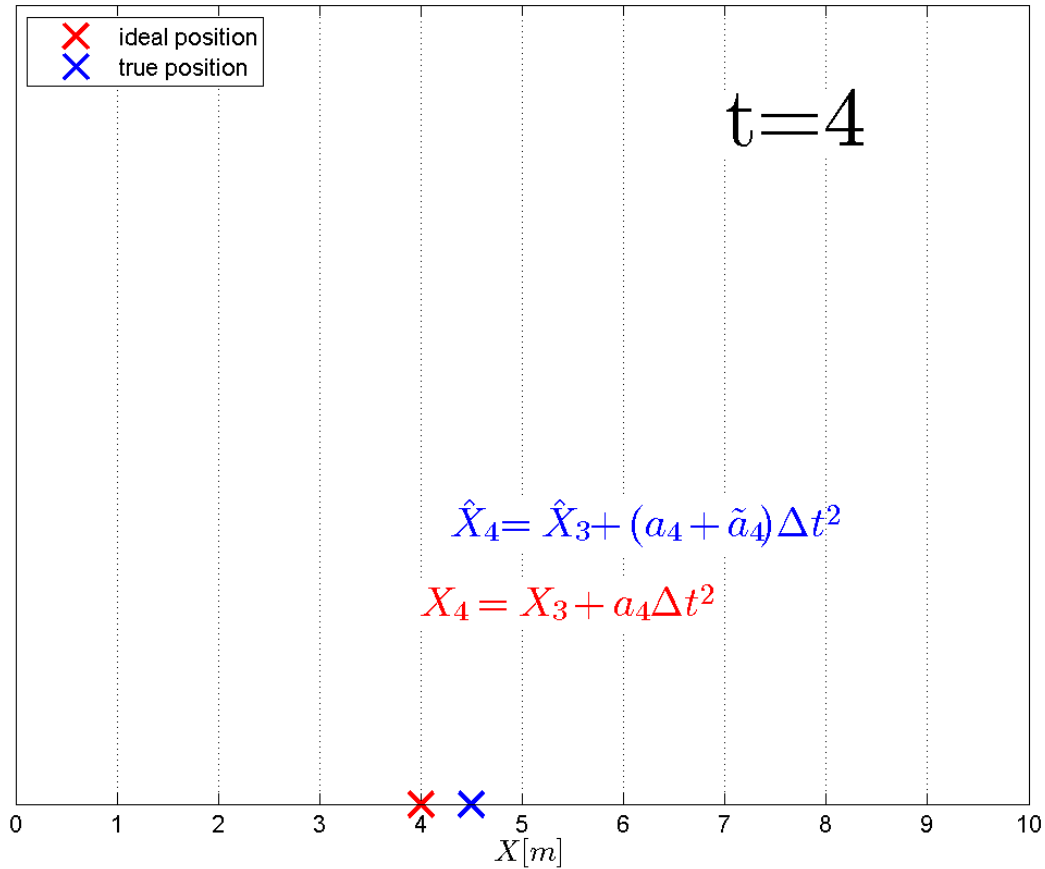
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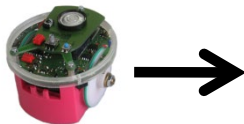
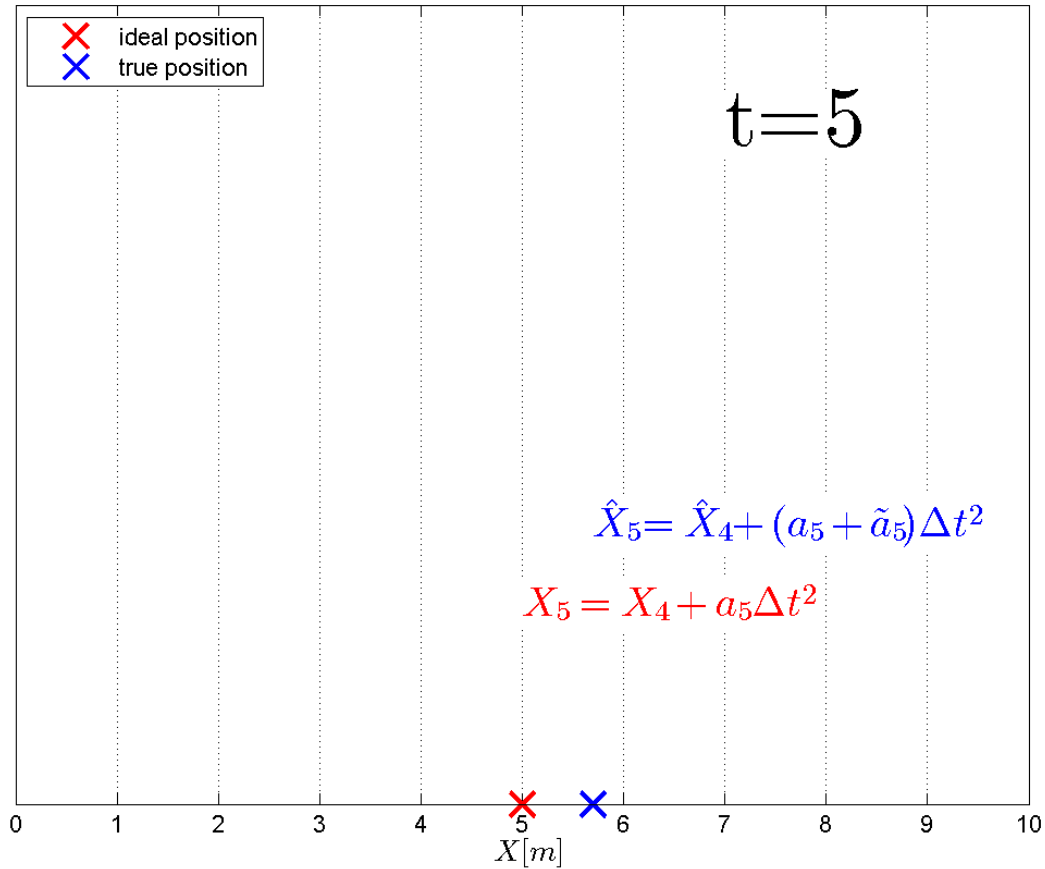
# Odometry in 1D



# Odometry in 1D



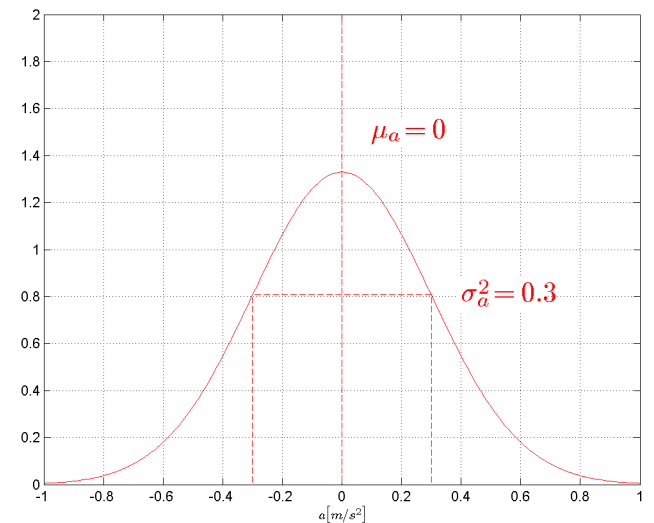
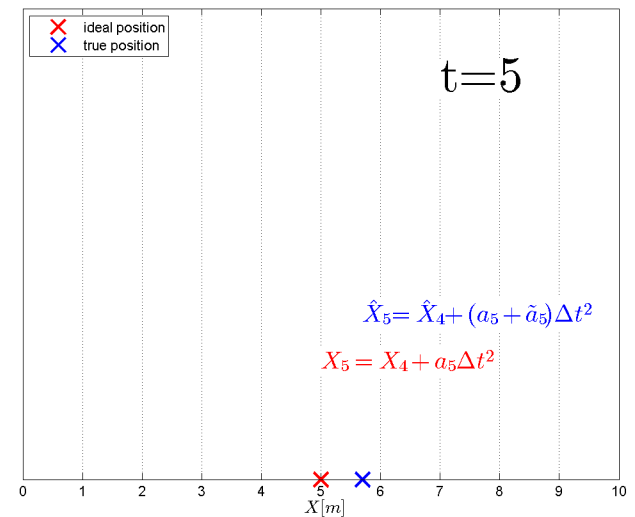
# Odometry in 1D



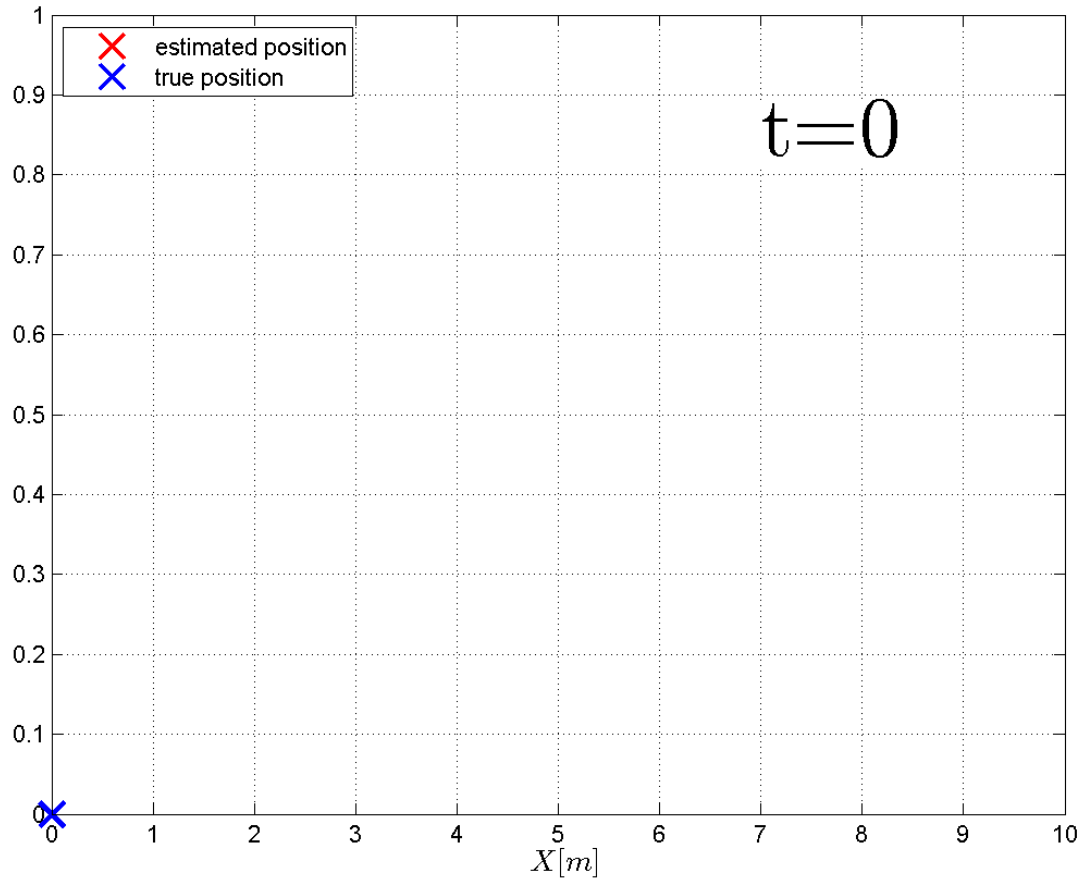


# 1D Odometry: Error Modeling

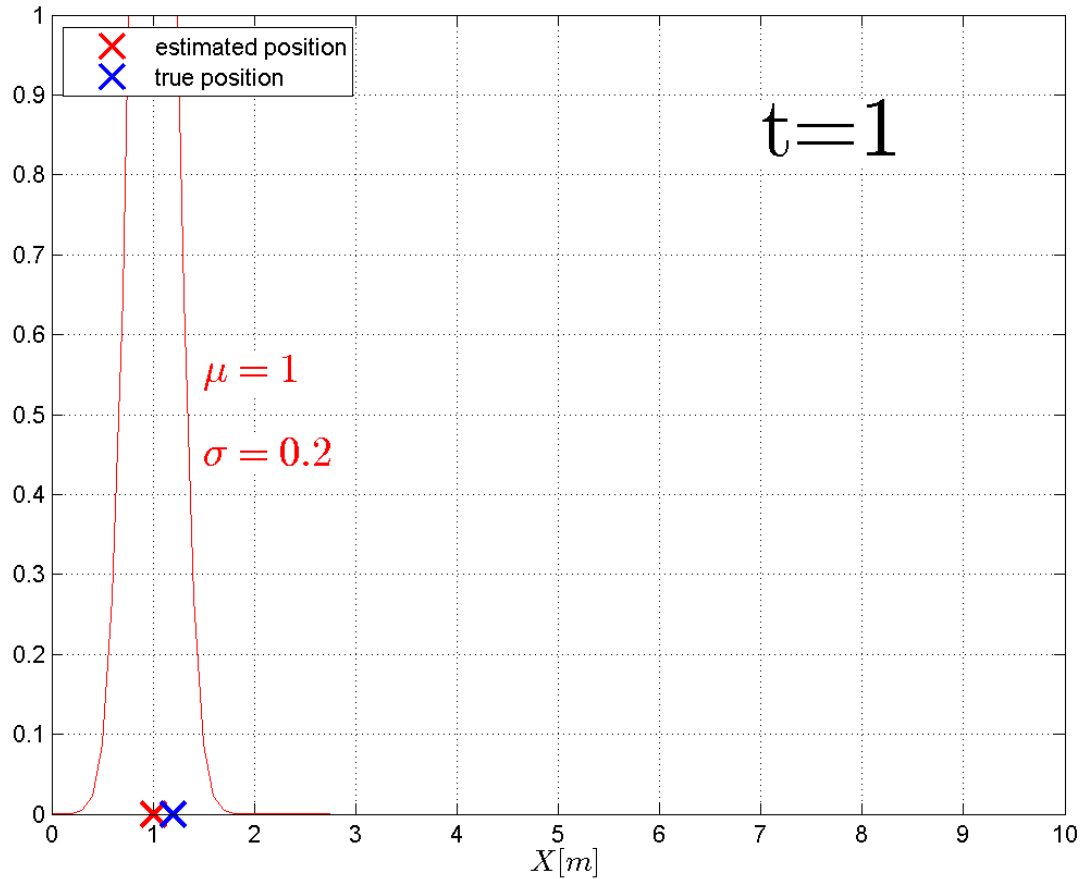
- Error happens!
- Odometry error is cumulative.  
→ grows without bound
- We need to be aware of it.  
→ We need to model odometry error.  
→ We need to model sensor error.
- Multiple independent source of errors with arbitrary distribution combined → Central Limit Theorem → Gaussian assumption reasonable
- Acceleration is random variable  $A$  drawn from “mean-free” Gaussian (“Normal”) distribution.  
→ Position  $X$  is random variable with Gaussian distribution.



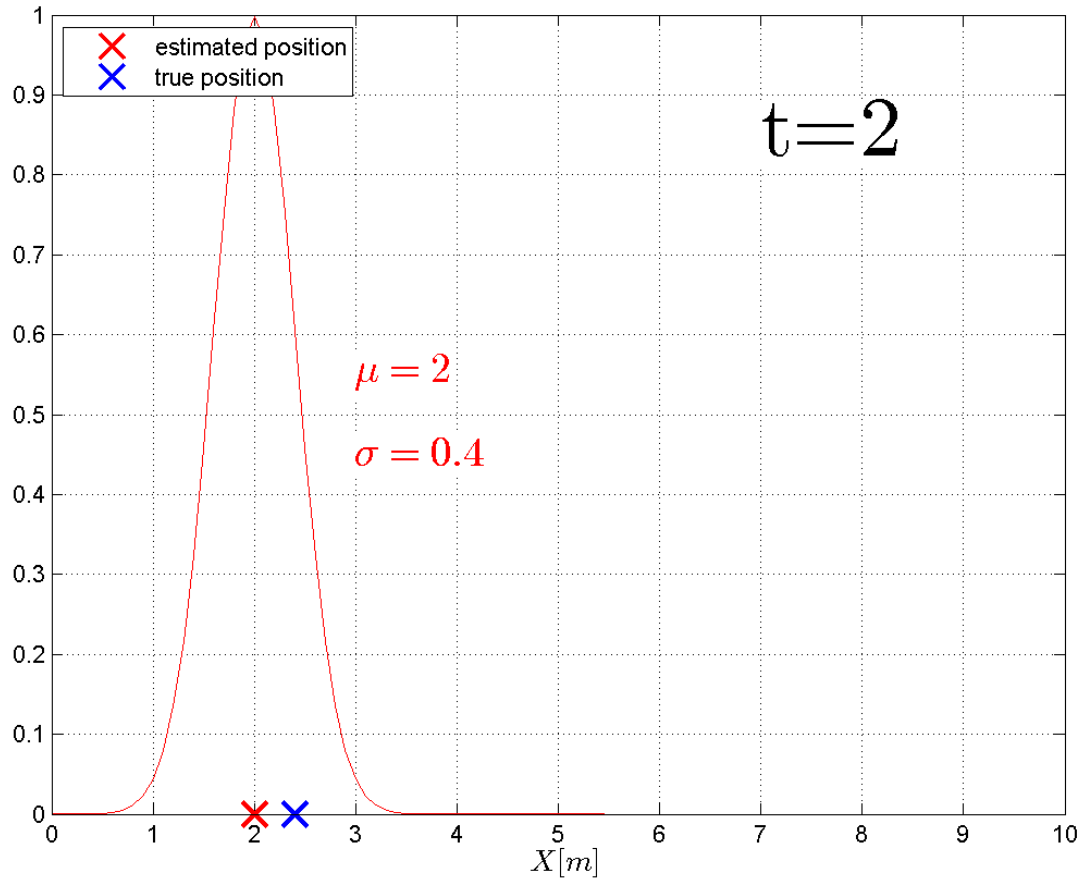
# 1D Odometry with Gaussian Uncertainty



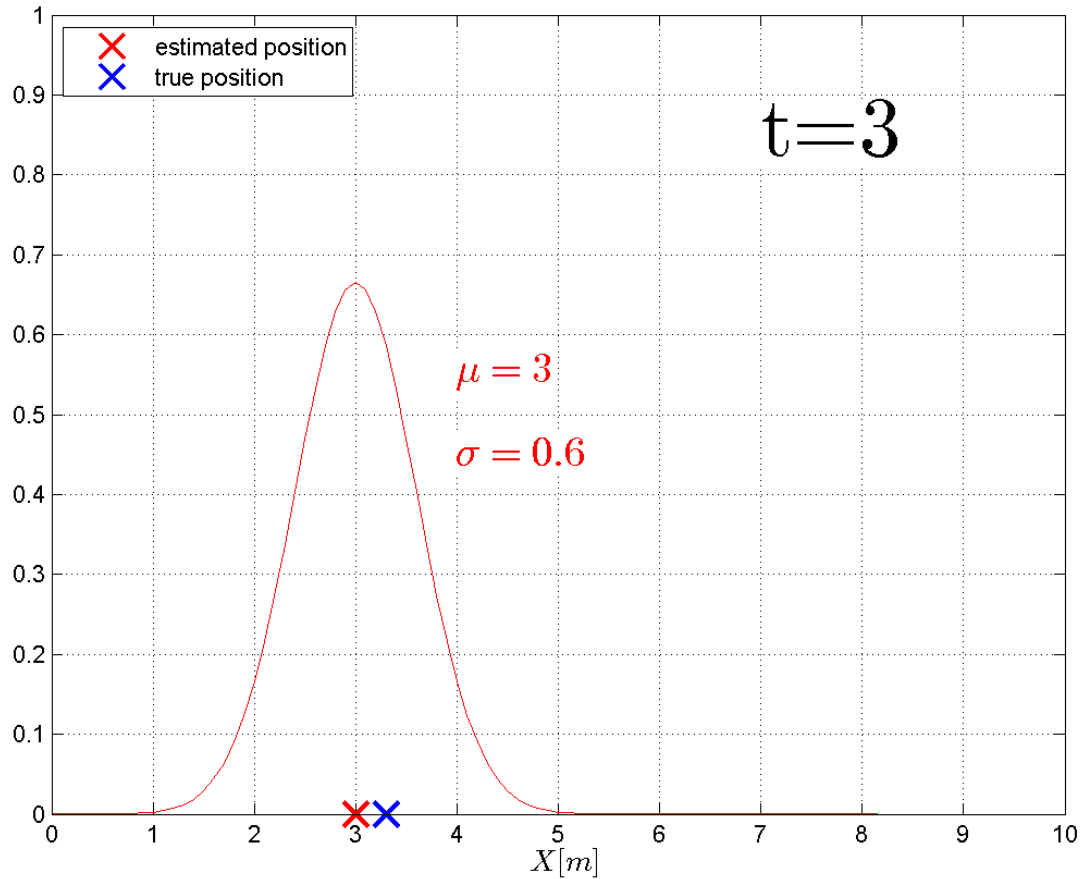
# 1D Odometry with Gaussian Uncertainty



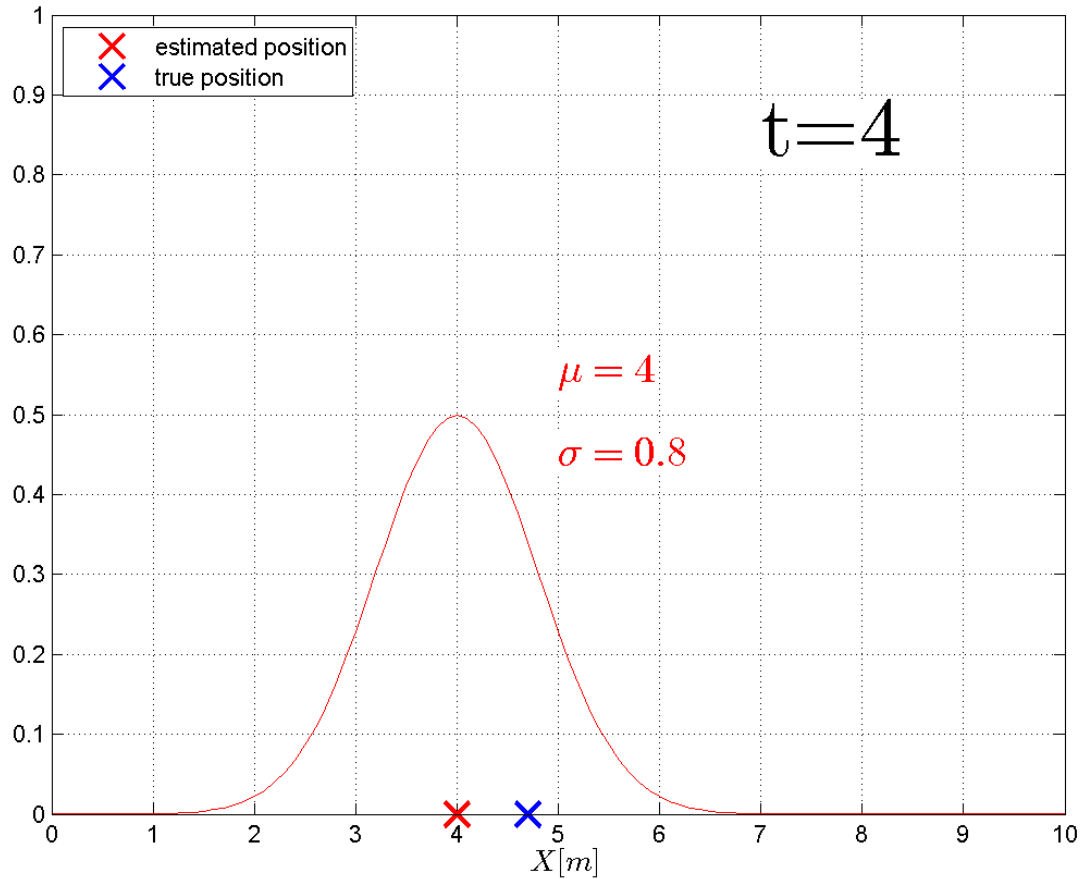
# 1D Odometry with Gaussian Uncertainty



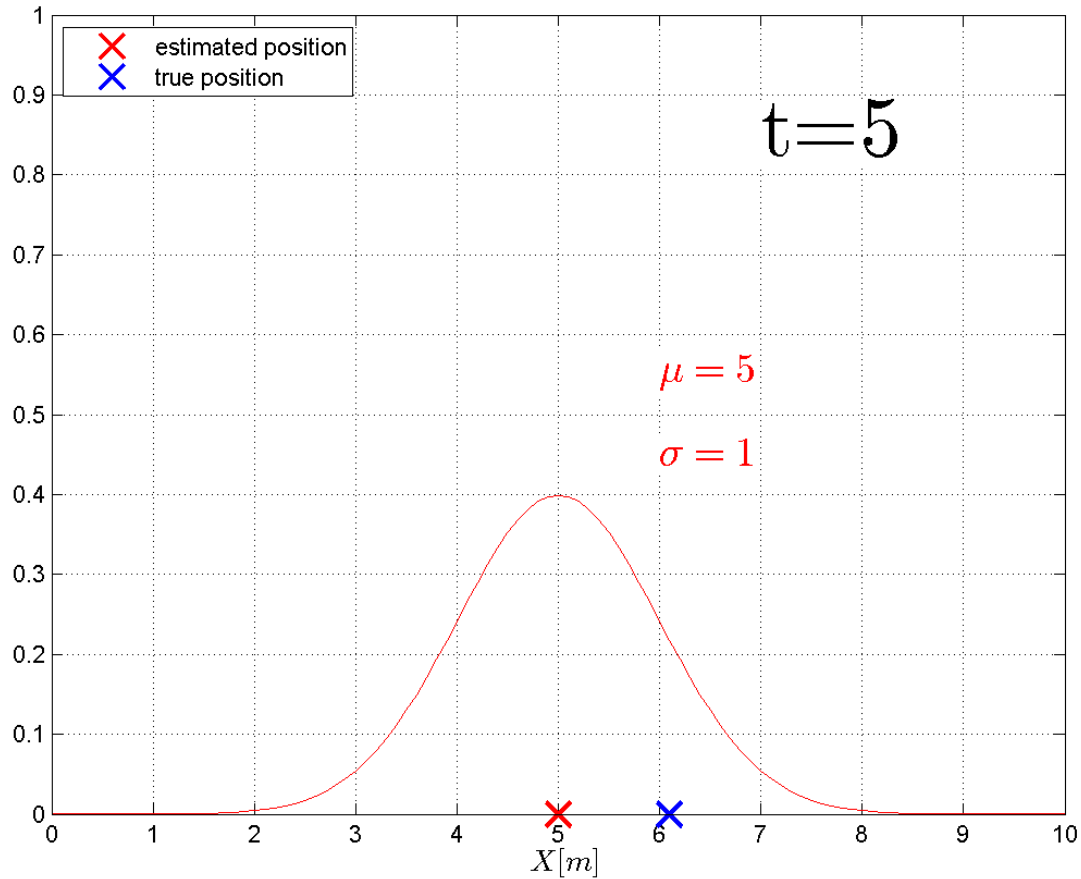
# 1D Odometry with Gaussian Uncertainty



# 1D Odometry with Gaussian Uncertainty



# 1D Odometry with Gaussian Uncertainty



# Features

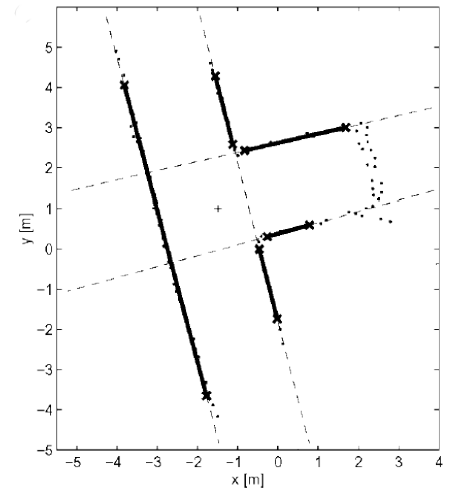
- Odometry based position error grows without bound.
- Use relative measurement to features (“landmarks”) to reduce position uncertainty
- *Feature*:
  - Uniquely identifiable
  - Position is known
  - We can obtain relative measurements between robot and feature (usually angle or range).
- Examples:
  - Doors, walls, corners, hand rails
  - Buildings, trees, lanes
  - GPS satellites





# Automatic Feature Extraction

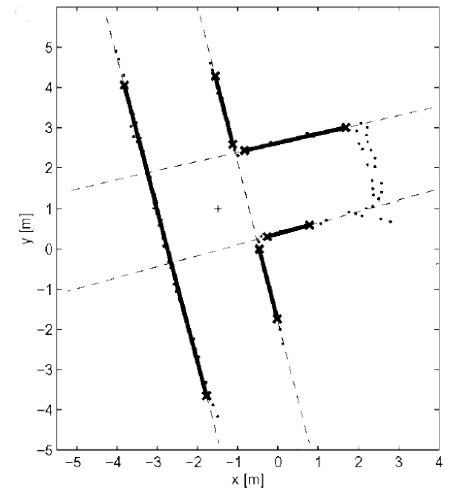
- High level features:
  - Doors, persons
- Simple visual features:
  - Edges (Canny Edge Detector 1983)
  - Corner (Harris Corner Detector 1988)
  - *Scale Invariant Feature Transformation* (2004)
- Simple geometric features
  - Lines
  - Corners
- “Binary” feature

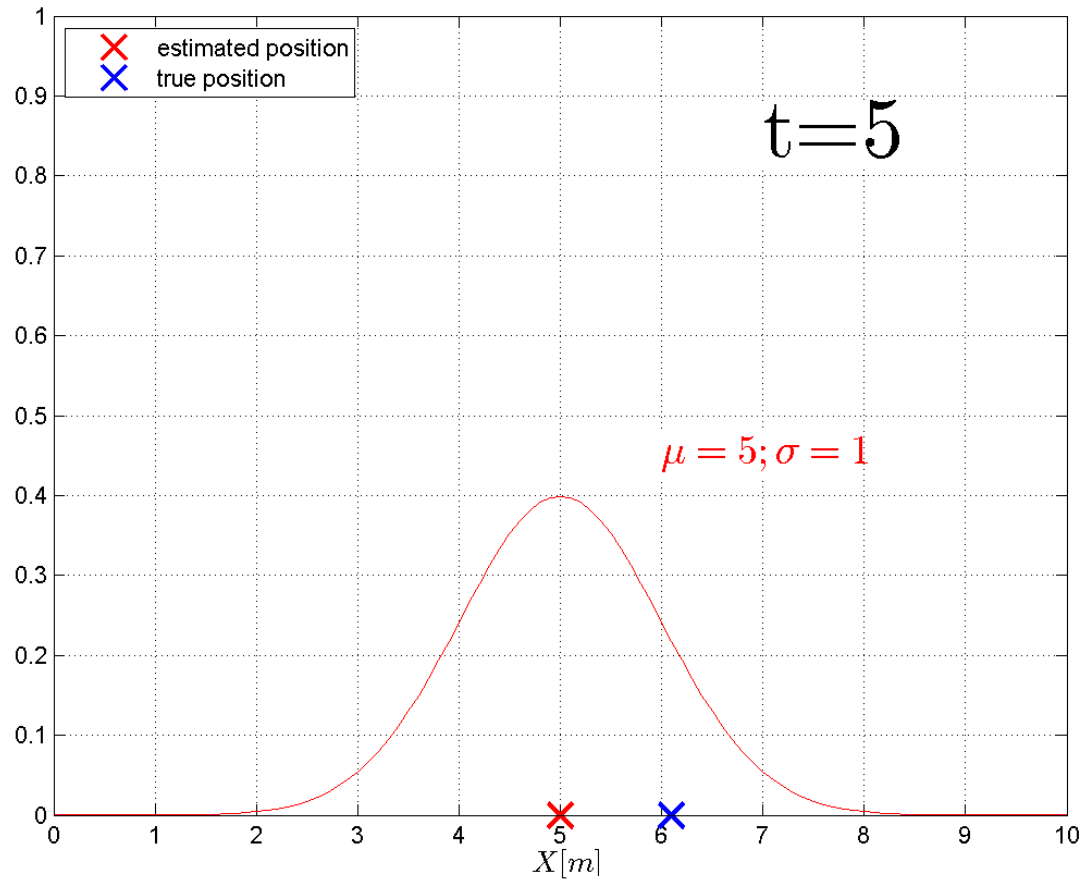


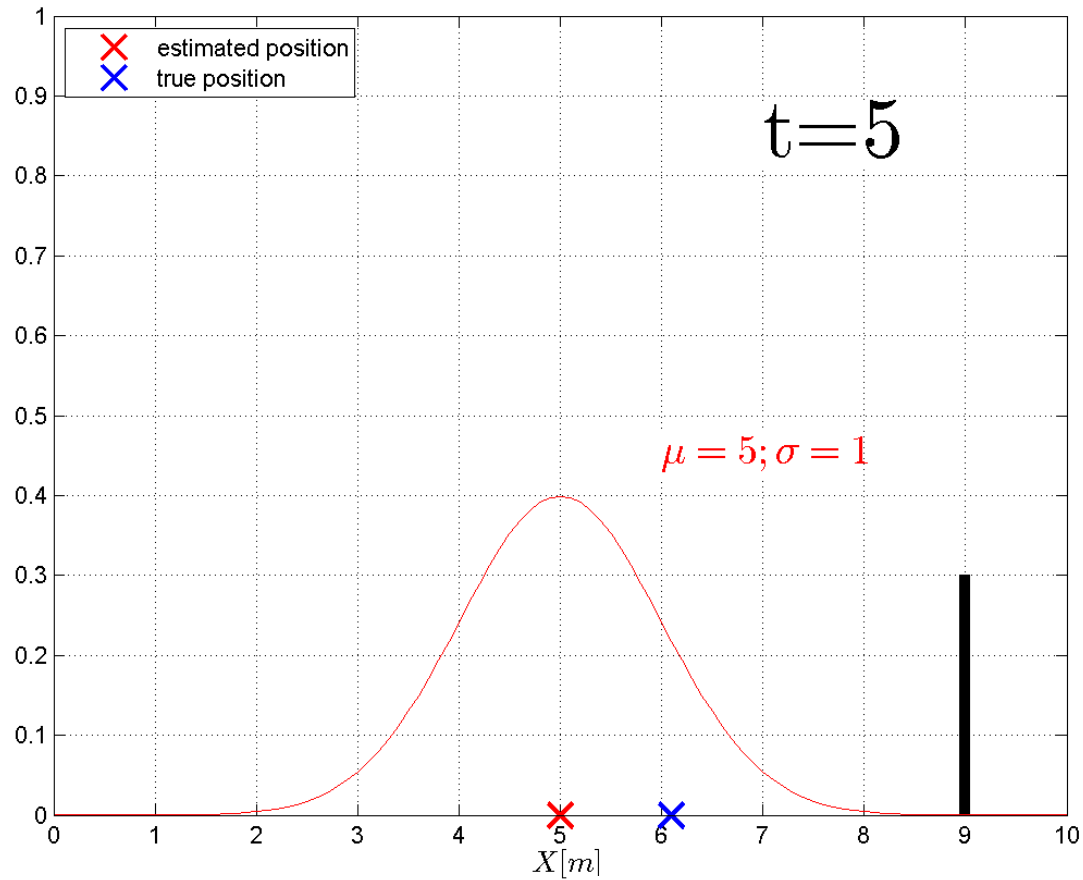
# Automatic Feature Extraction

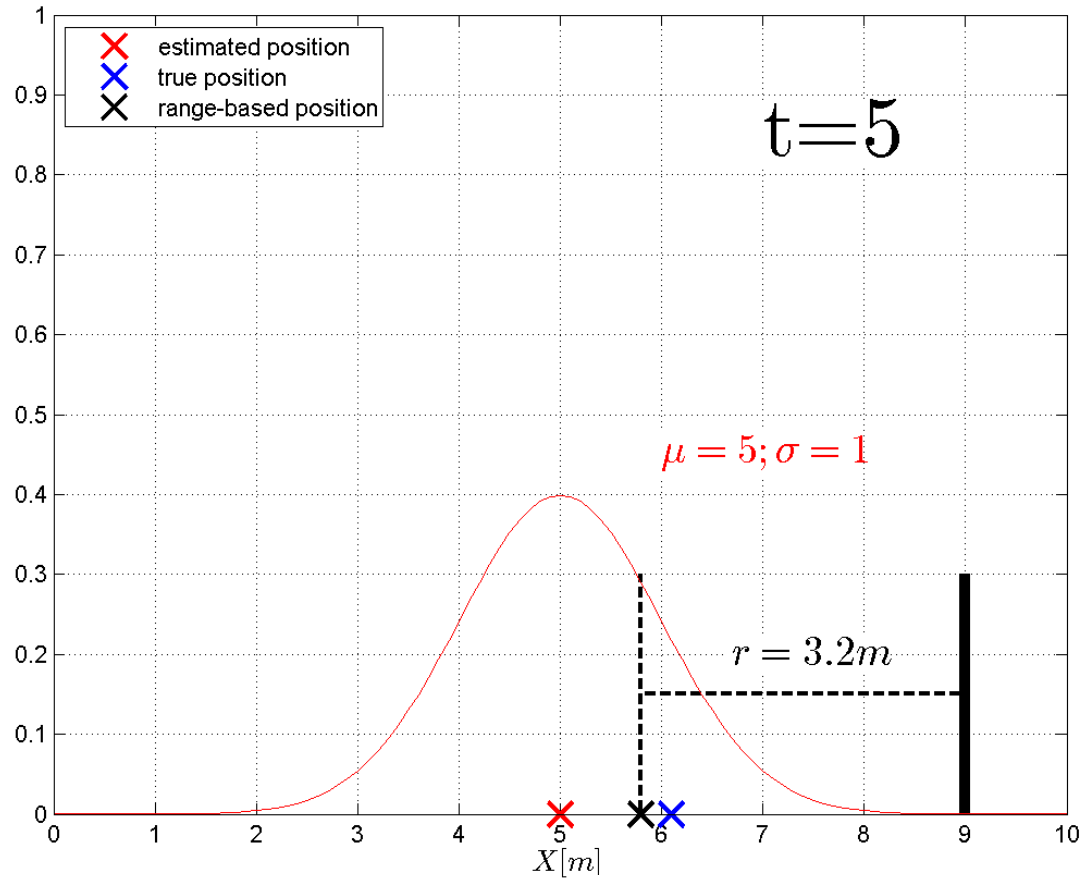
- High level features:
  - Doors, persons
- Simple visual features:
  - Edges (Canny Edge Detection)
  - Corner (Harris Corner Detection (1988))
  - *Scale Invariant Feature Transformation* (2004)
- Simple geometric features
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- “Binary” feature

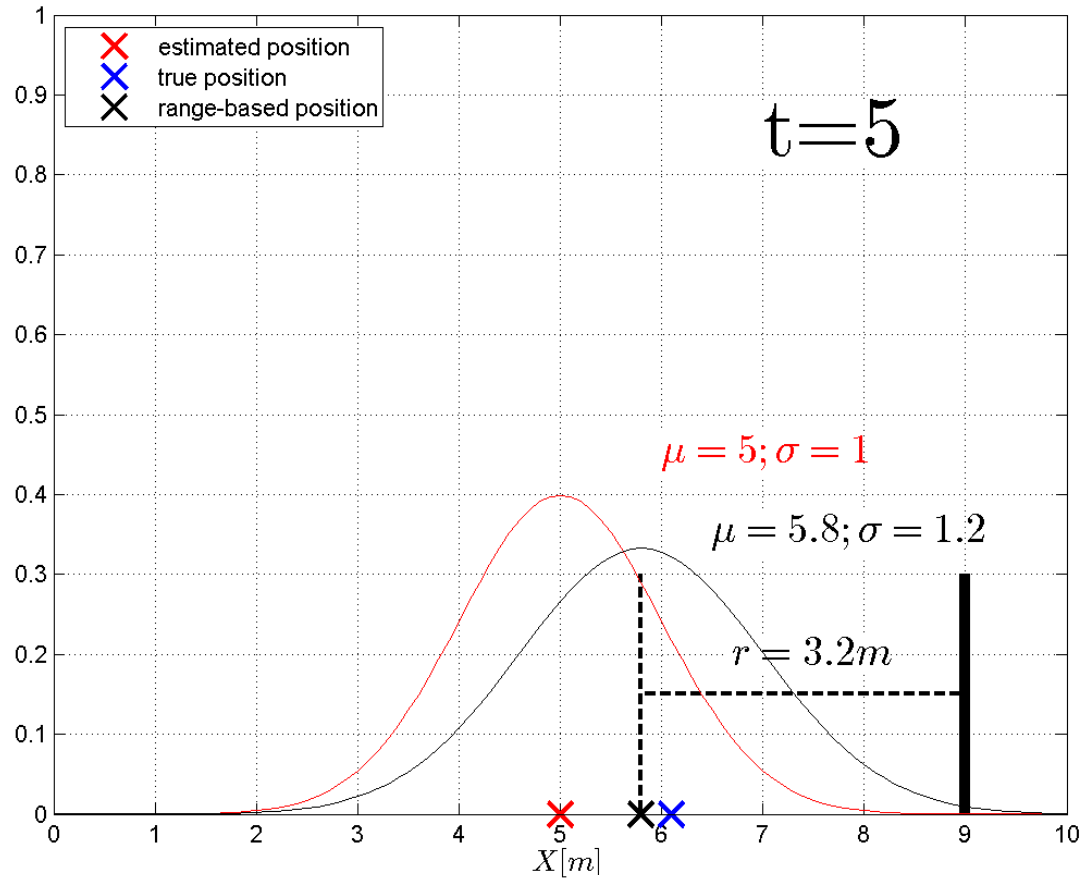
Complexity











# Sensor Fusion

• Given:

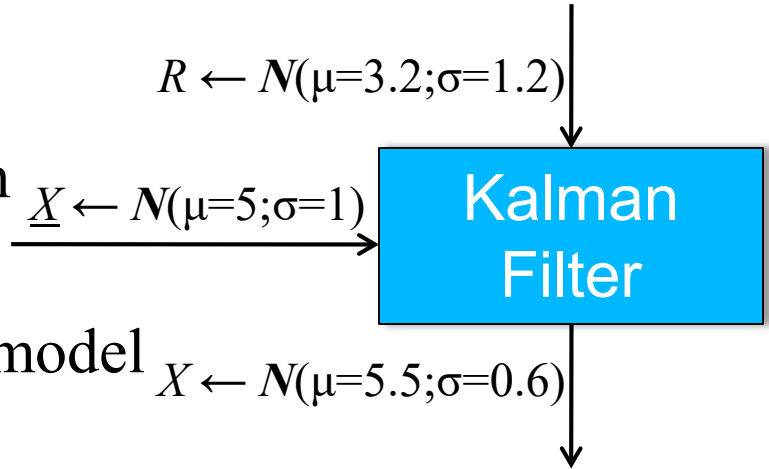
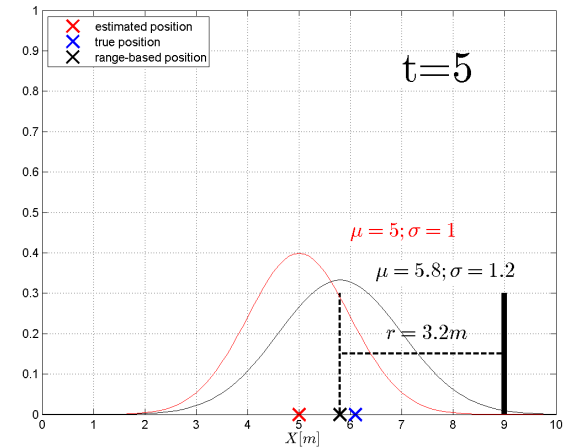
- Position estimate  $\underline{X} \leftarrow N(\mu=5; \sigma=1)$
- Range estimate  $R \leftarrow N(\mu=3.2; \sigma=1.2)$

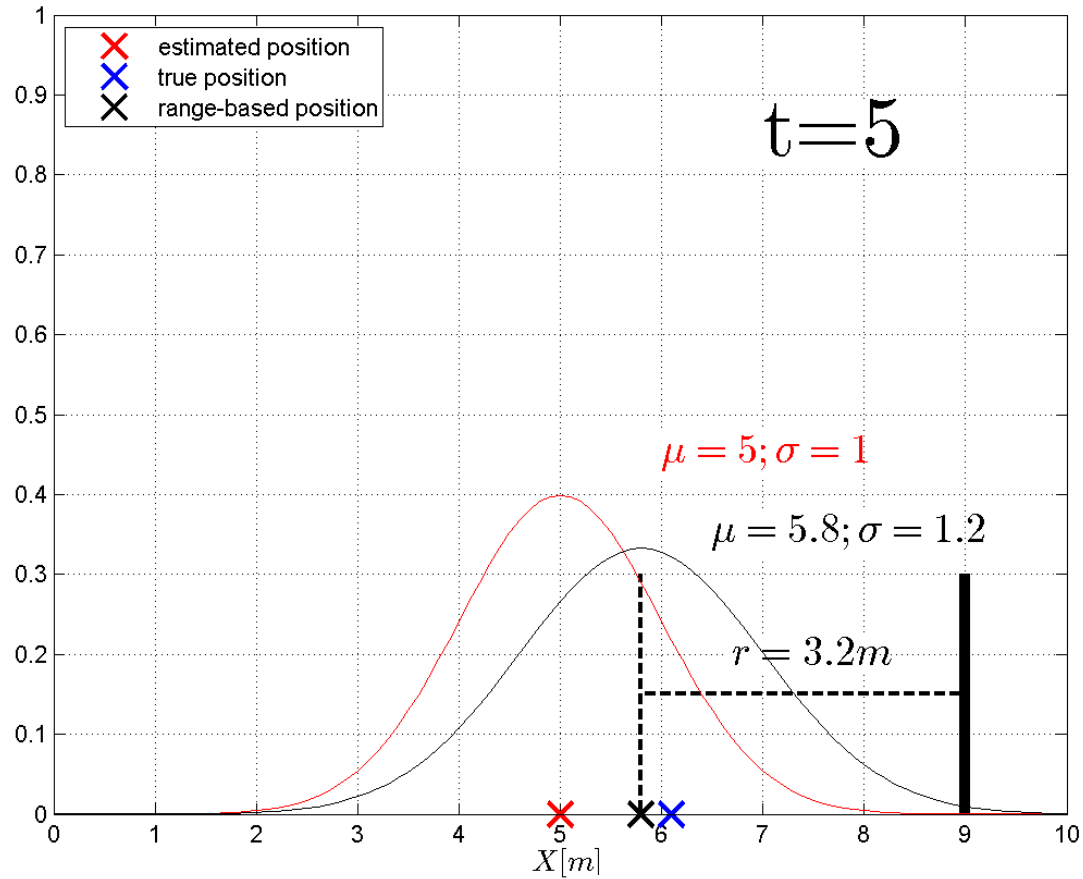
What is the best estimate AFTER incorporating  $r$  ?

→ *Kalman Filter*

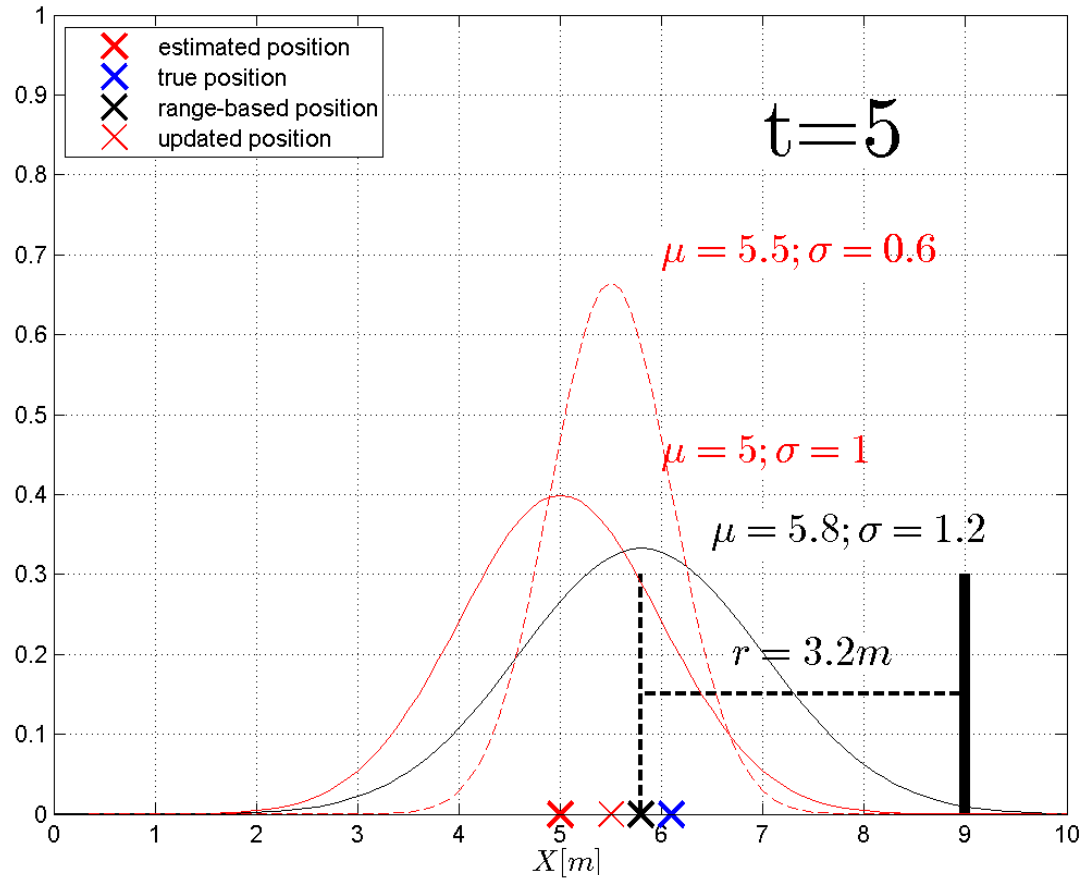
• Requires:

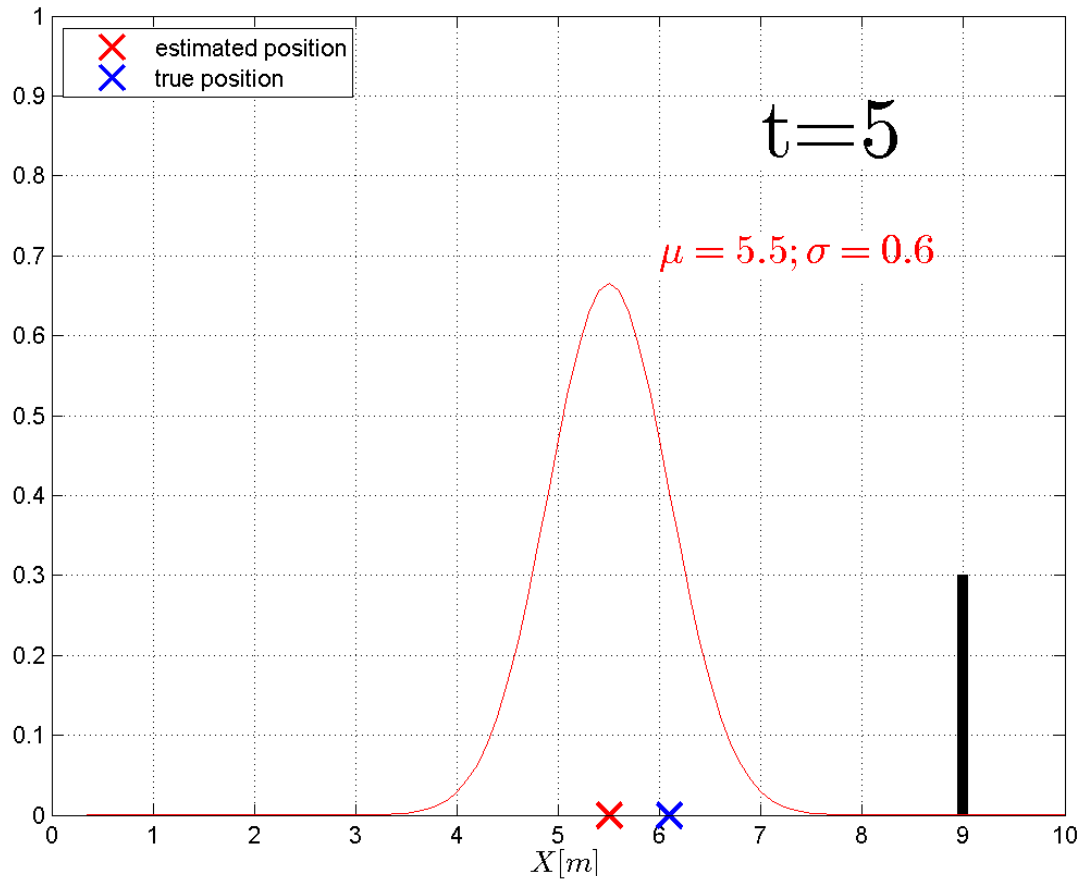
- White Gaussian noise distribution for all measurements
- Linear motion and measurement model
- ...

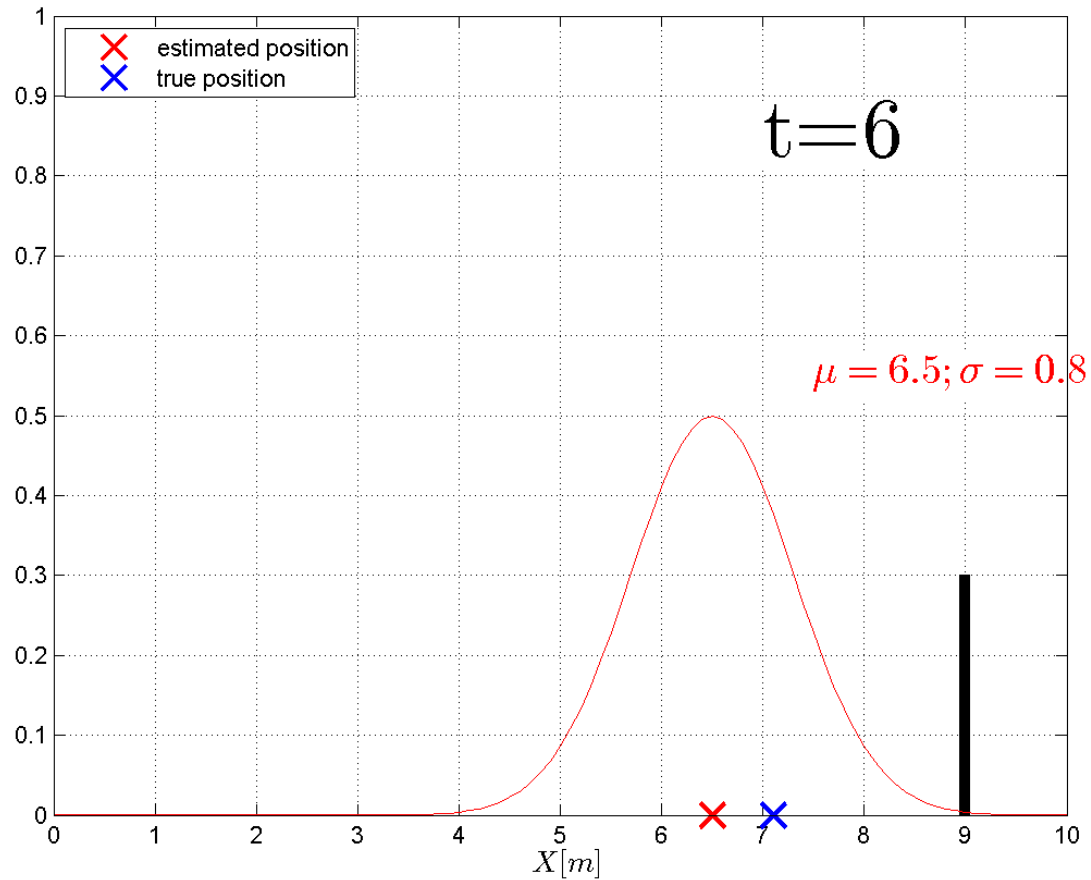






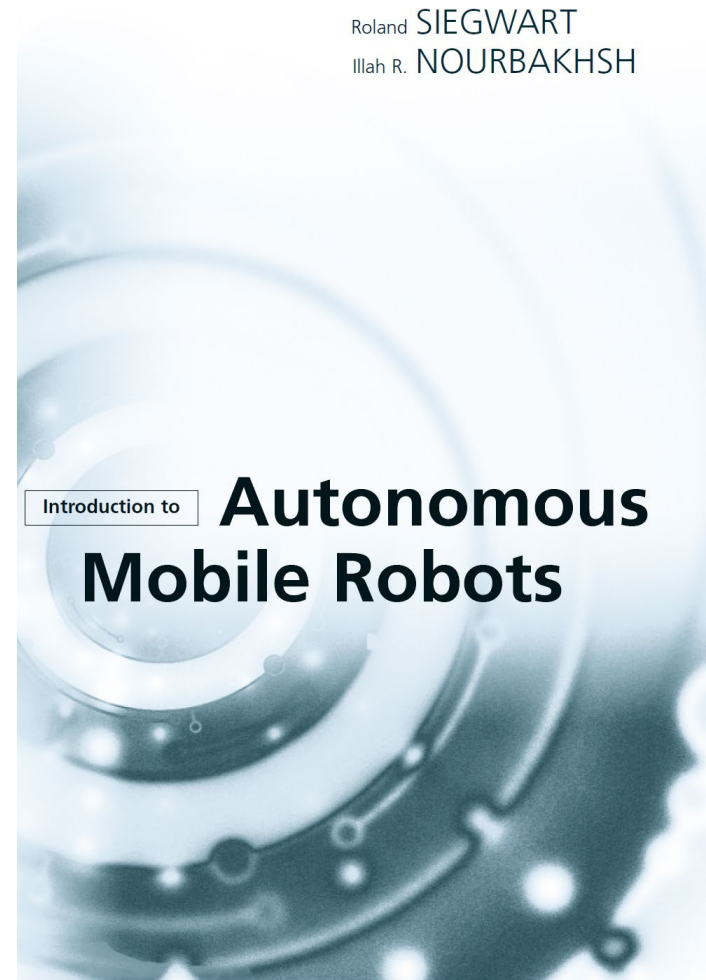
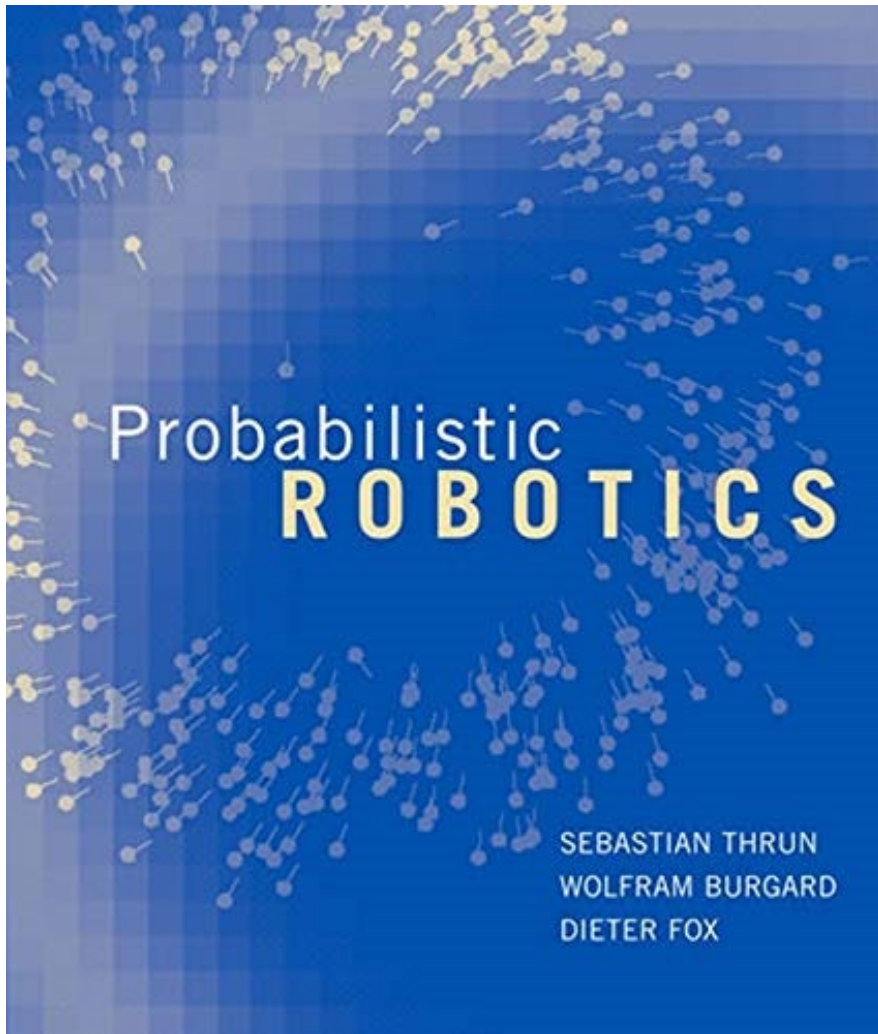






# **The Multi-Dimensional Kalman Filter Algorithm and its Application to Localization**

# Two Key Sources of Information



# Multi-Dimensional Kalman Filter

Estimates the state  $x$  of a discrete-time controlled process that is governed by the linear stochastic difference equation

$$x_t = A_t x_{t-1} + B_t u_t + \varepsilon_t$$

with a measurement

$$z_t = C_t x_t + \delta_t$$

# Components of a Kalman Filter

- $A_t$  Matrix ( $n \times n$ ) that describes how the state evolves from  $t$  to  $t-1$  without controls or noise.
- $B_t$  Matrix ( $n \times 1$ ) that describes how the control  $u_t$  changes the state from  $t$  to  $t-1$ .
- $C_t$  Matrix ( $k \times n$ ) that describes how to map the state  $x_t$  to an observation  $z_t$ .
- $\varepsilon_t$  Random variables representing the process and measurement noise that are assumed to be independent and normally distributed with covariance  $R_t$  and  $Q_t$  respectively.
- $\delta_t$

# Kalman Filter Algorithm

Algorithm **Kalman\_filter**( $\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}, u_t, z_t$ )

1. **Prediction:**
2.  $\bar{\mu}_t = A_t \mu_{t-1} + B_t u_t$
3.  $\bar{\Sigma}_t = A_t \Sigma_{t-1} A_t^T + R_t$
4. **Correction or update:**
5.  $K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t C_t^T (C_t \bar{\Sigma}_t C_t^T + Q_t)^{-1}$
6.  $\mu_t = \bar{\mu}_t + K_t (z_t - C_t \bar{\mu}_t)$
7.  $\Sigma_t = (I - K_t C_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t$
8. **Return**  $\mu_t, \Sigma_t$



# **Mitigating Localization Uncertainties in Odometry Through Exteroceptive Sensors – The 2D Case**

# Nondeterministic Error Sources

- Variation of the contact point of the wheel
  - Unequal floor contact (e.g., wheel slip, nonplanar surface)
- 
- Wheels cannot be assumed to roll perfectly
  - Measured encoder values do not perfectly reflect the actual motion
  - Pose error is cumulative and incrementally increases
  - Probabilistic modeling for assessing quantitatively the error

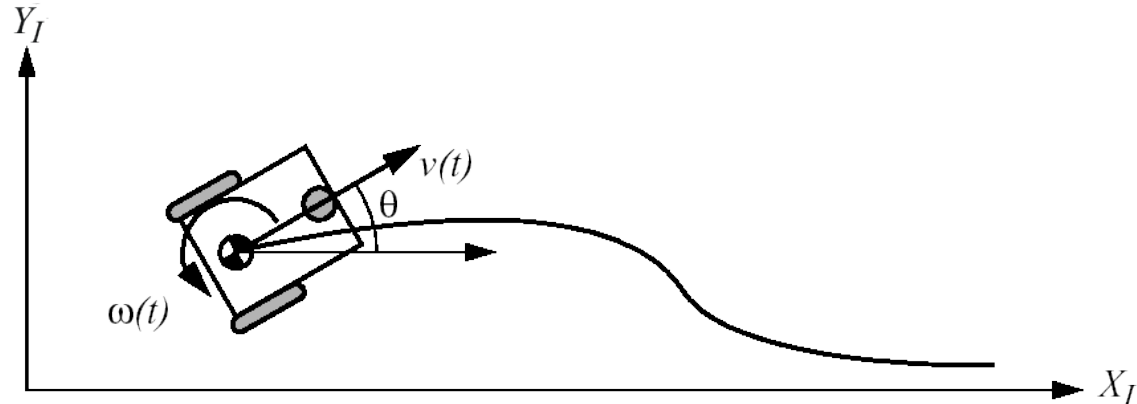
# Pose Variation During $\Delta t$

$$\Delta s = \frac{\Delta s_r + \Delta s_l}{2}$$

$$\begin{cases} \Delta x = \Delta s \cos\left(\theta + \frac{\Delta\theta}{2}\right) \\ \Delta y = \Delta s \sin\left(\theta + \frac{\Delta\theta}{2}\right) \\ \Delta\theta = \frac{\Delta s_r - \Delta s_l}{b} \end{cases}$$

$$p = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{t'=t+\Delta t} p' = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ \theta' \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p' = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \Delta s \cos(\theta + \Delta\theta / 2) \\ \Delta s \sin(\theta + \Delta\theta / 2) \\ \Delta\theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\Delta s_r + \Delta s_l}{2} \cos\left(\theta + \frac{\Delta s_r - \Delta s_l}{2b}\right) \\ \frac{\Delta s_r + \Delta s_l}{2} \sin\left(\theta + \frac{\Delta s_r - \Delta s_l}{2b}\right) \\ \frac{\Delta s_r - \Delta s_l}{b} \end{bmatrix}$$



$b = 2l =$  inter-wheel distance

$\Delta s_r =$  traveled distance right wheel

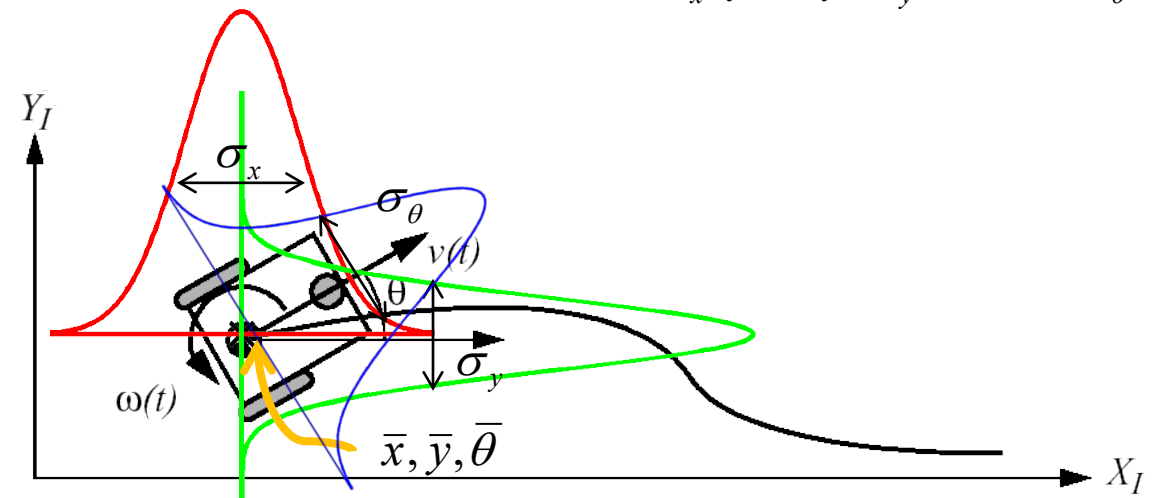
$\Delta s_l =$  traveled distance left wheel

$\Delta\theta =$  orientation change of the vehicle

# Noise modeling

Model error in each dimension with a Gaussian  $x \rightarrow \bar{x}, \sigma_x; y \rightarrow \bar{y}, \sigma_y; \theta \rightarrow \bar{\theta}, \sigma_\theta$

$$\Sigma_p = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx}^2 & \sigma_{xy}^2 & \sigma_{x\theta}^2 \\ \sigma_{yx}^2 & \sigma_{yy}^2 & \sigma_{y\theta}^2 \\ \sigma_{\theta x}^2 & \sigma_{\theta y}^2 & \sigma_{\theta\theta}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



## Assumptions:

- Covariance matrix  $\Sigma_p$  at the beginning is known
- Errors of the two individual wheels are independent
- Errors are independent of direction of motion
- Errors are proportional to the distance traveled ( $k_r, k_l$  model parameters)

$$\Sigma_\Delta = \text{cov}(\Delta s_r, \Delta s_l) = \begin{bmatrix} k_r |\Delta s_r| & 0 \\ 0 & k_l |\Delta s_l| \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{s_r}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{s_l}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Actuator Noise $\rightarrow$ Pose Noise

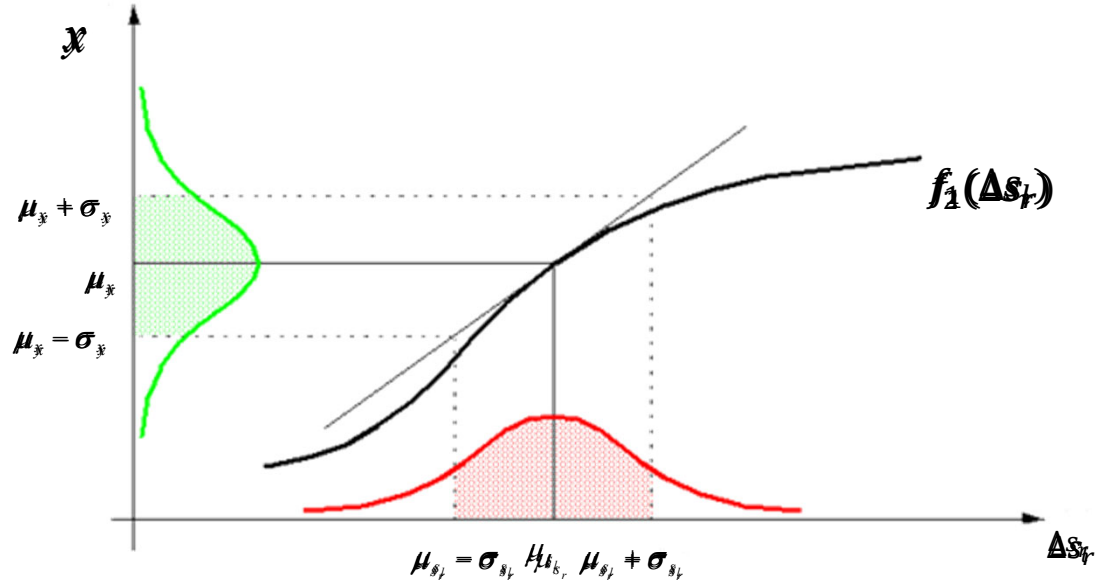
$$x \approx f_1(\Delta s_r) \Big|_{\Delta s_r = \mu_{s_r}} \approx f_1(\Delta s_r) + \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \Delta s_r} (\Delta s_r - \mu_{s_r})$$

$$x \approx f_1(\Delta s_l) \Big|_{\Delta s_l = \mu_{s_l}} \approx f_1(\Delta s_l) + \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \Delta s_l} (\Delta s_l - \mu_{s_l})$$

$$y \approx f_2(\Delta s_r) \Big|_{\Delta s_r = \mu_{s_r}} \approx f_2(\Delta s_r) + \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \Delta s_r} (\Delta s_r - \mu_{s_r})$$

...

$$F_{\Delta r l} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \Delta s_r} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \Delta s_l} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \Delta s_r} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial \Delta s_l} \\ \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial \Delta s_r} & \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial \Delta s_l} \end{bmatrix} \text{ Jacobian}$$



$$\Sigma_{\Delta} = \begin{bmatrix} k_r |\Delta s_r| & 0 \\ 0 & k_l |\Delta s_l| \end{bmatrix}$$

- General error propagation law

$$\Sigma_{\Delta r l} = F_{\Delta r l} \Sigma_{\Delta} F_{\Delta r l}^T$$

# Actuator Noise $\rightarrow$ Pose Noise

## Algorithm

### Precompute:

- Determine actuator noise  $\Sigma_{\Delta}$
- Compute mapping actuator-to-pose noise incremental  $F_{\Delta rl}$
- Compute mapping pose propagation noise over step  $F_p$

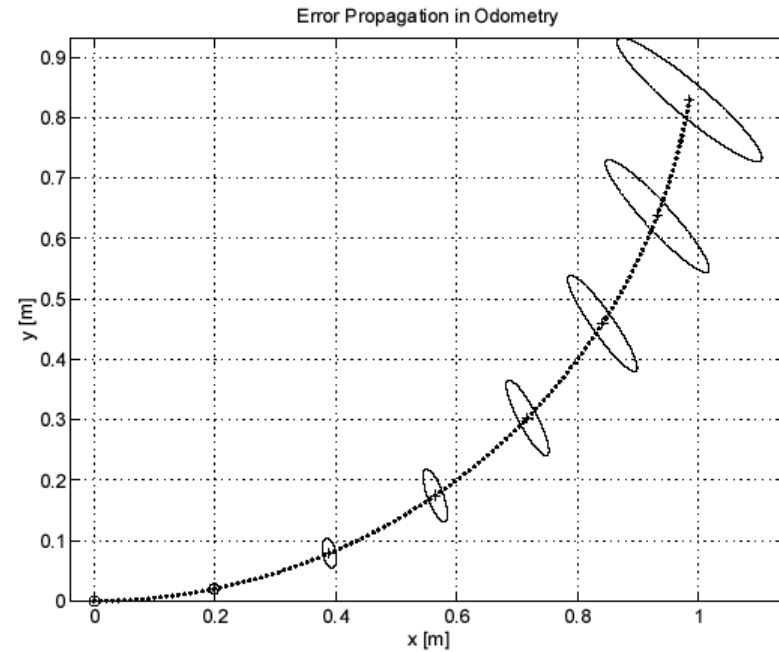
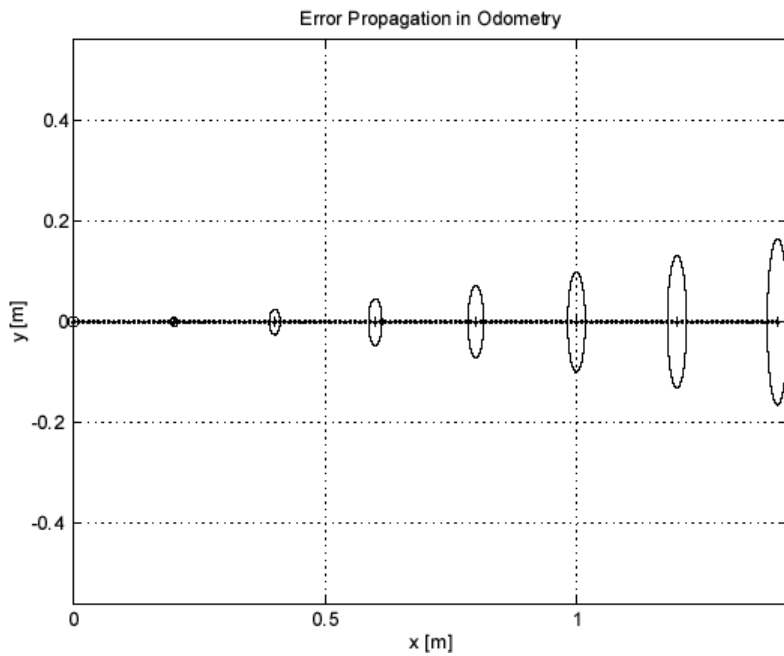
### Initialize:

- Initialize  $\Sigma_p^{(t=0)} = [0]$

### Iterate:

$$\Sigma_p^{(t=(k+1)\Delta t)} = F_p \Sigma_p^{(t=k\Delta t)} F_p^T + F_{\Delta rl} \Sigma_{\Delta} F_{\Delta rl}^T$$

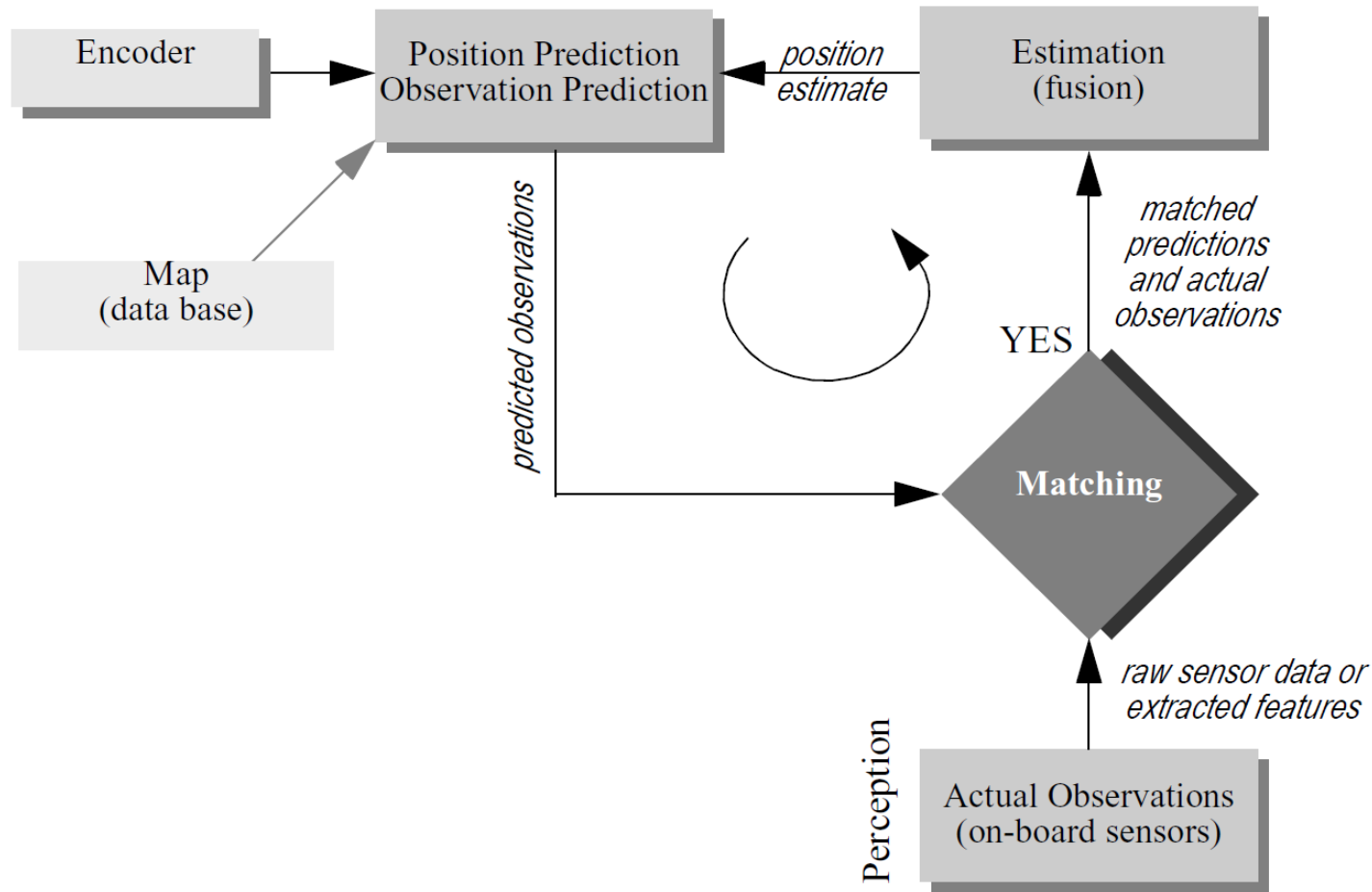
# Classical 2D Representation



*Courtesy of R. Siegwart and R. Nourbakhsh*

Ellipses: typical  $3\sigma$  bounds

# 2D Localization with Kalman Filter





# A Five-Step Iterative Recipe

1. Robot pose prediction
2. Actual observations
3. Predicted observations
4. Matching
5. Estimation with Kalman filter

# Robot Pose Prediction

- **Input:** motion model of the vehicle, odometry, control actions
- **Output:** estimation mean and co-variance of the pose and the next timestep (s. 40 and 43)

# Actual Observations

- **Input:** sensor model
- Coordinate transformation needed for getting to the local frame (in this case sensor frame)
- **Output:** depending on the sensing technology/feature (e.g., distance, line, door)

# Predicted Observations

- **Input:** predicted robot pose and map
- Coordinate transformation needed for getting to the local frame (in this case sensor frame)
- **Output:** predicted feature observations

# Matching

- **Input**: predicted feature observations and actual observations, all in the sensor frame
- Objective: matching actual observations to predicted features
- **Innovation** metric: difference predicted and observed measurements (also random variable, with mean and co-variance)
- **Validation** criterion based on innovation metric
- **Output**: **selection of features** worth using in the estimation process

# Estimation with Kalman Filter

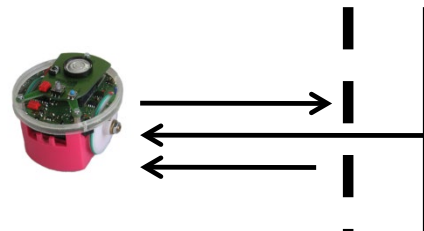
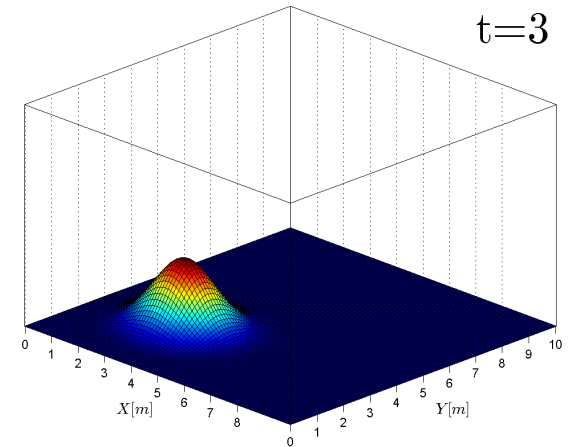
- **Input:** pose prediction from the motion model and validated observations
- **Objective:** fuse pose prediction from motion model and all validated observation to create next pose
- **Output:** next mean and variance of the pose

# **Working Around Kalman Filter Limitations: Particle Filters for Localization**

# Feature-Based Localization

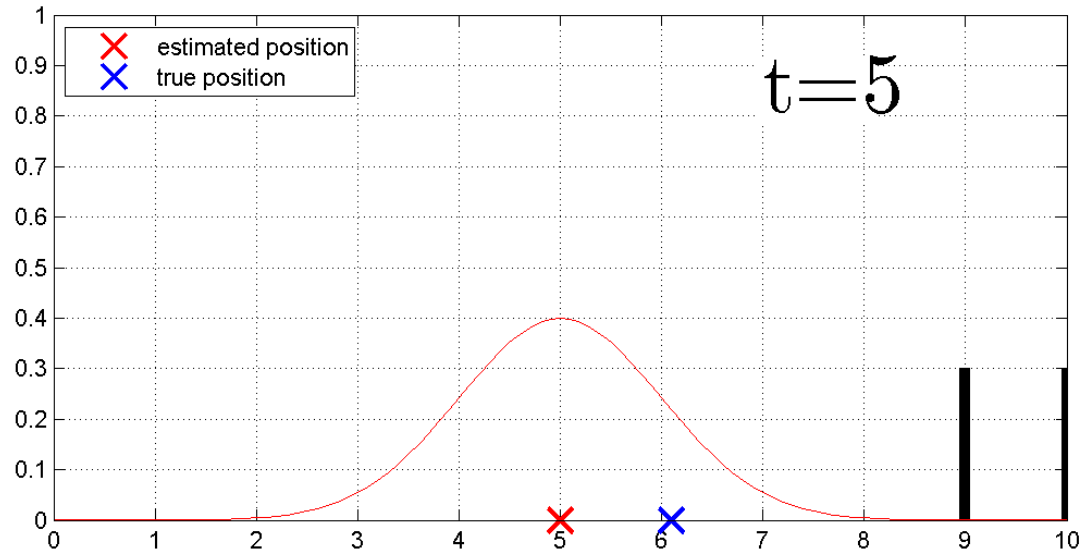
Belief representation through Gaussian distribution

- Advantages:
  - Compact (only mean and variance required)
  - Continuous
  - Powerful tools (Kalman Filter)
- Disadvantages:
  - Requires Gaussian noise assumption
  - Cannot represent ignorance (“kidnapped robot problem”)
  - Uni-modal
- Problematic example:

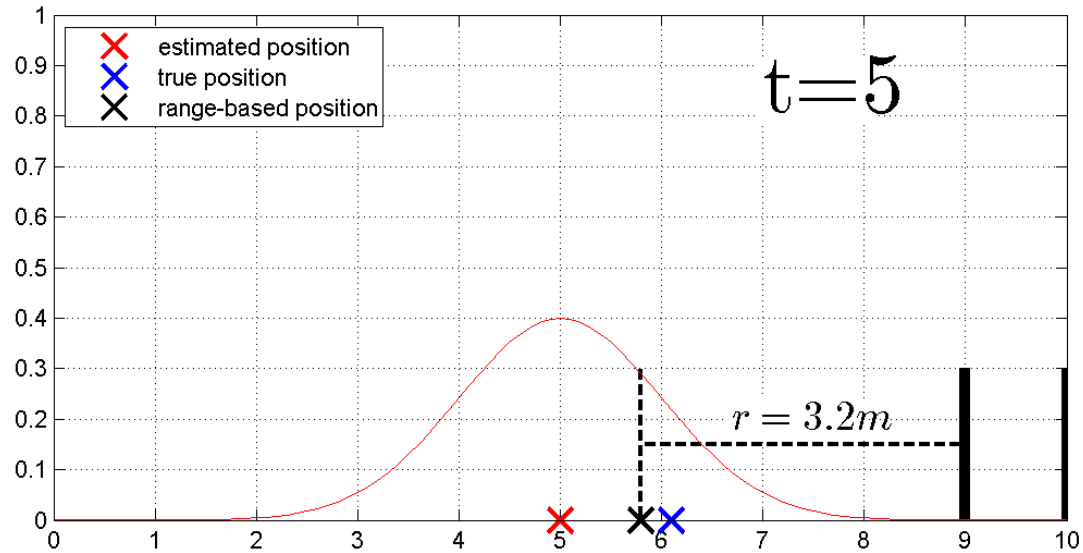




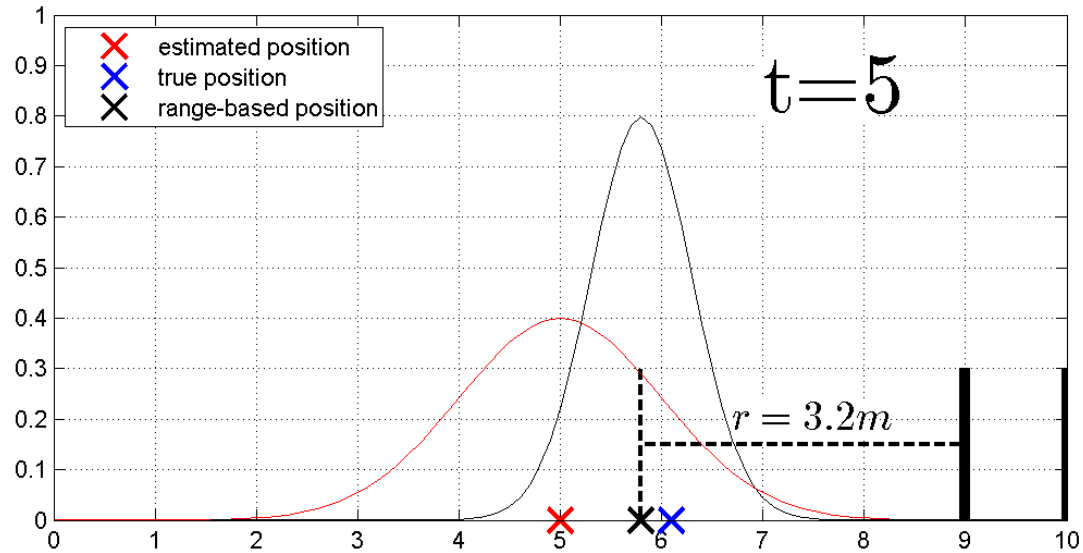
# Particle Filter Localization



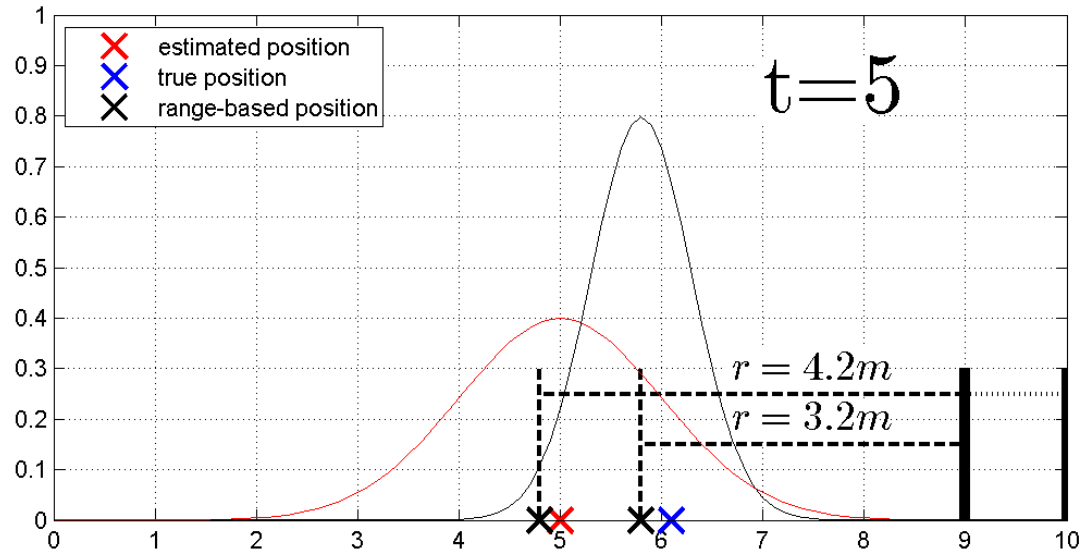
# Particle Filter Localization



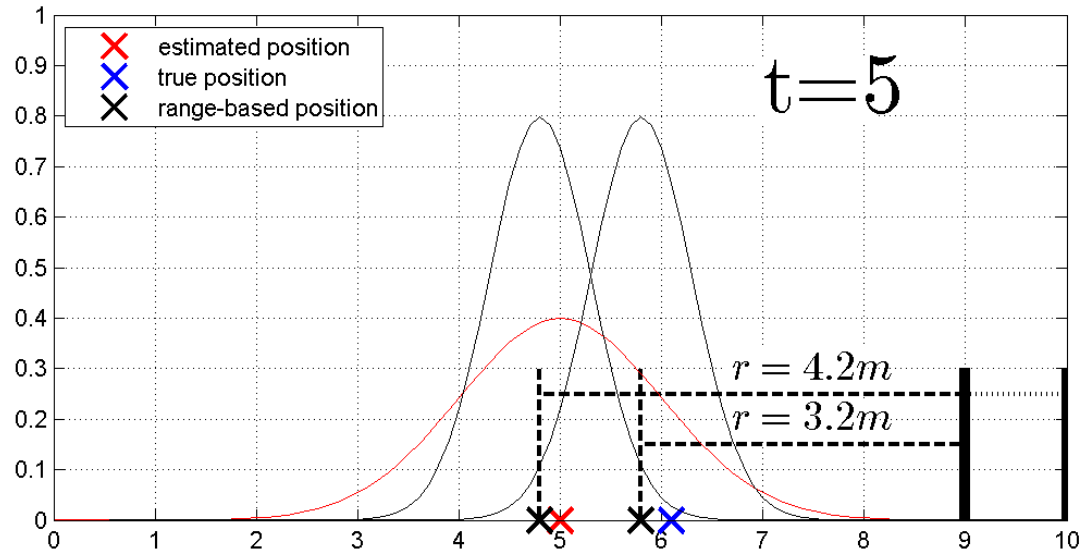
# Particle Filter Localization



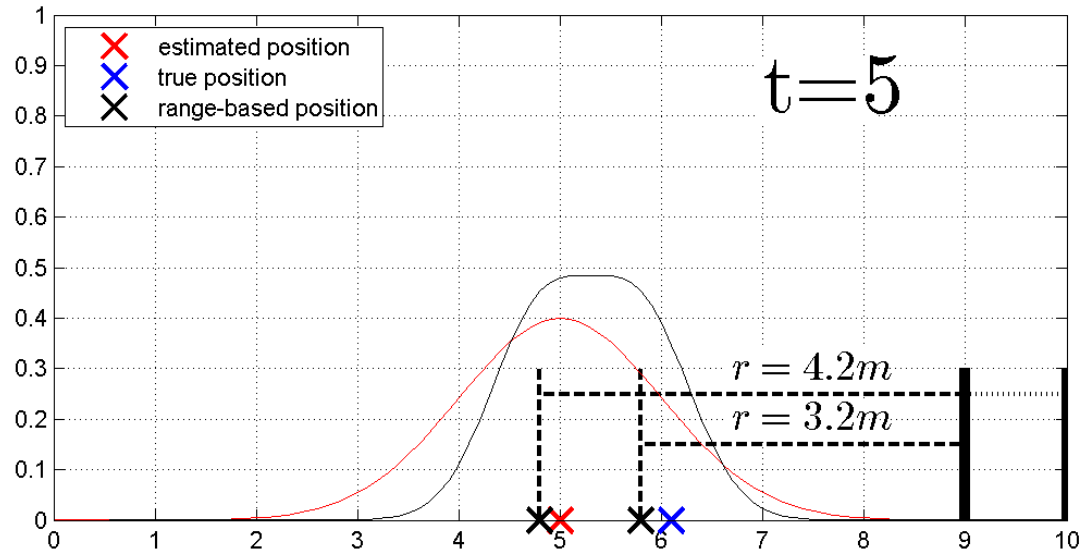
# Particle Filter Localization



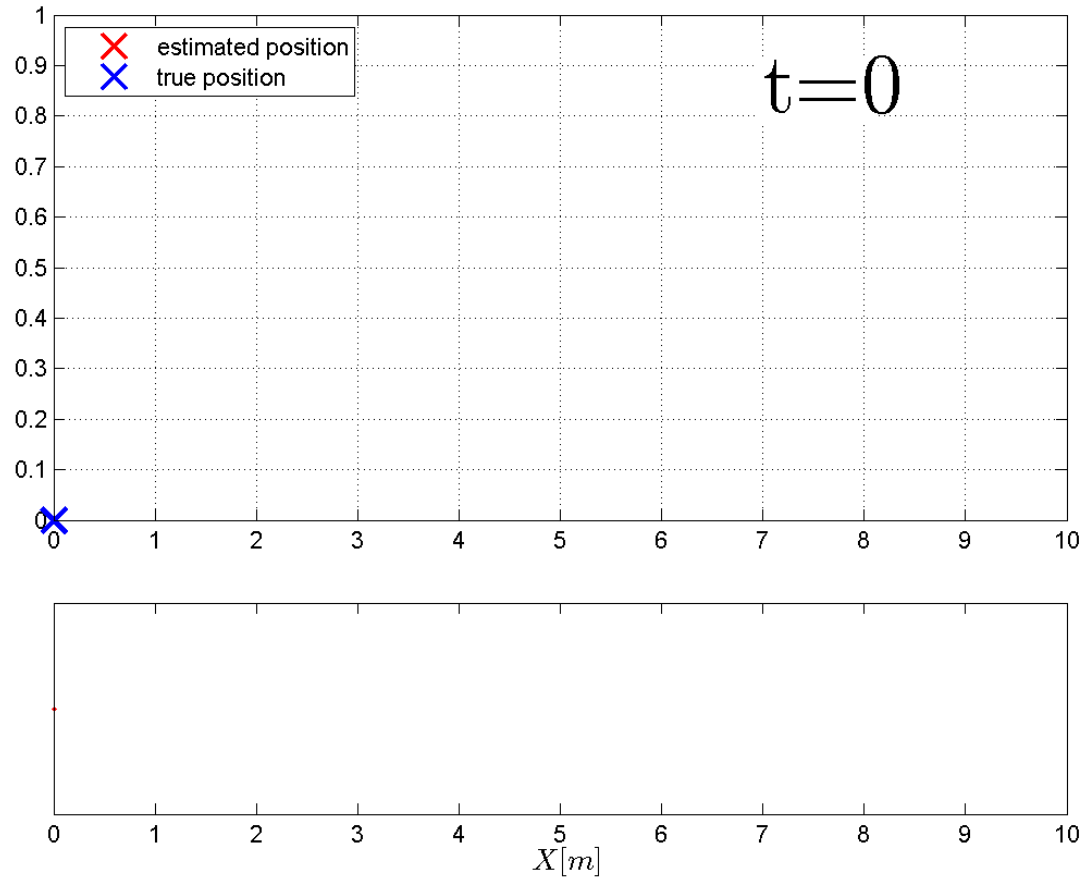
# Particle Filter Localization



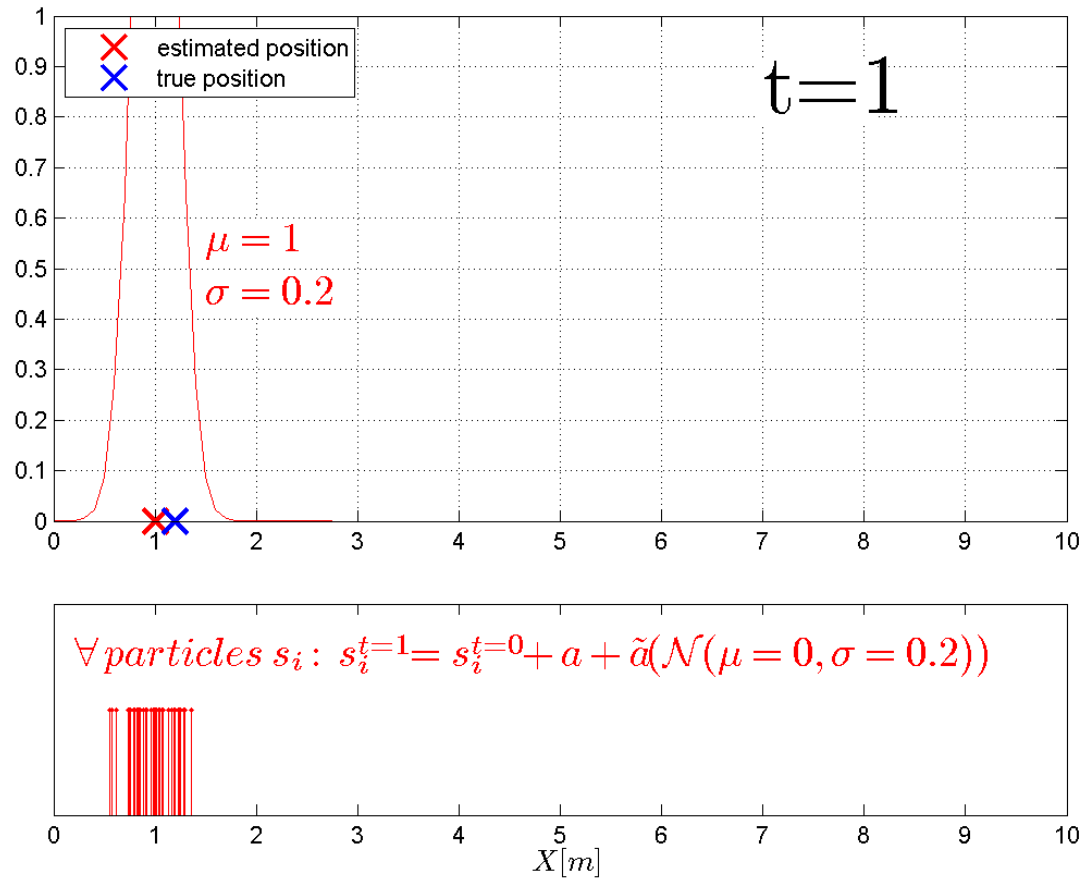
# Particle Filter Localization



# Particle Filter Localization

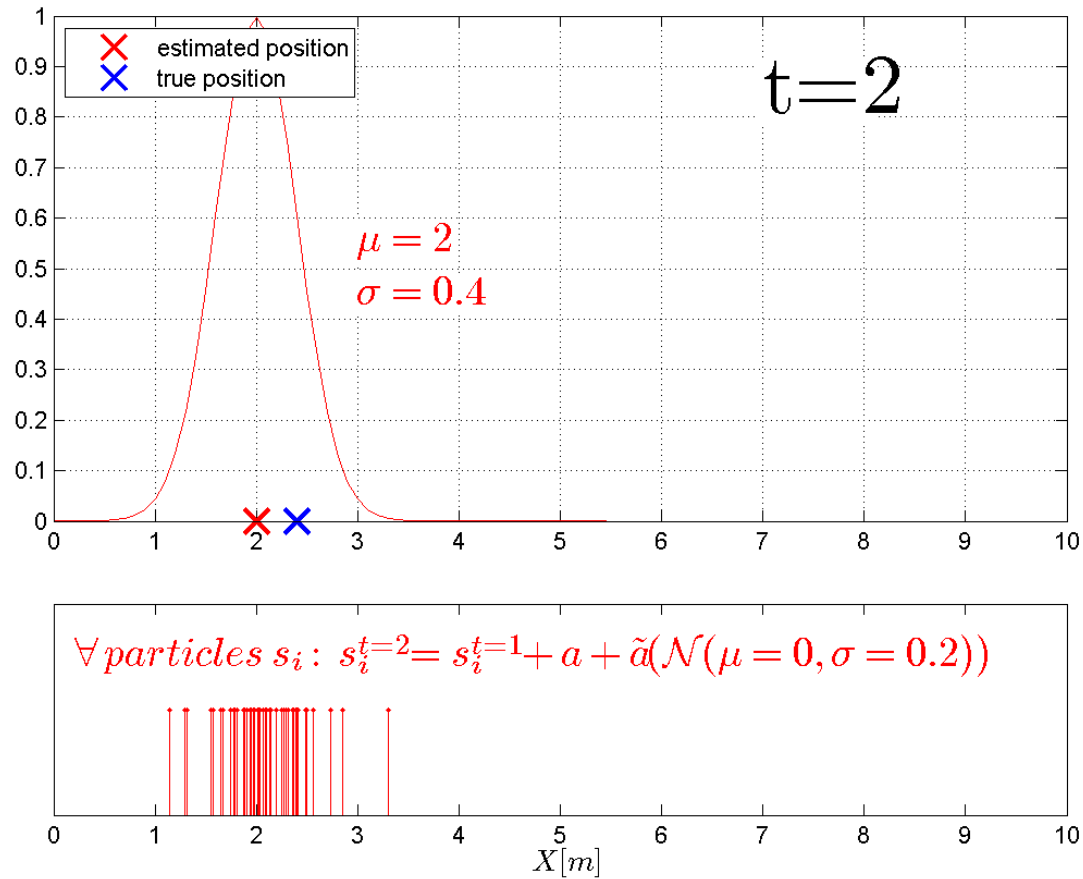


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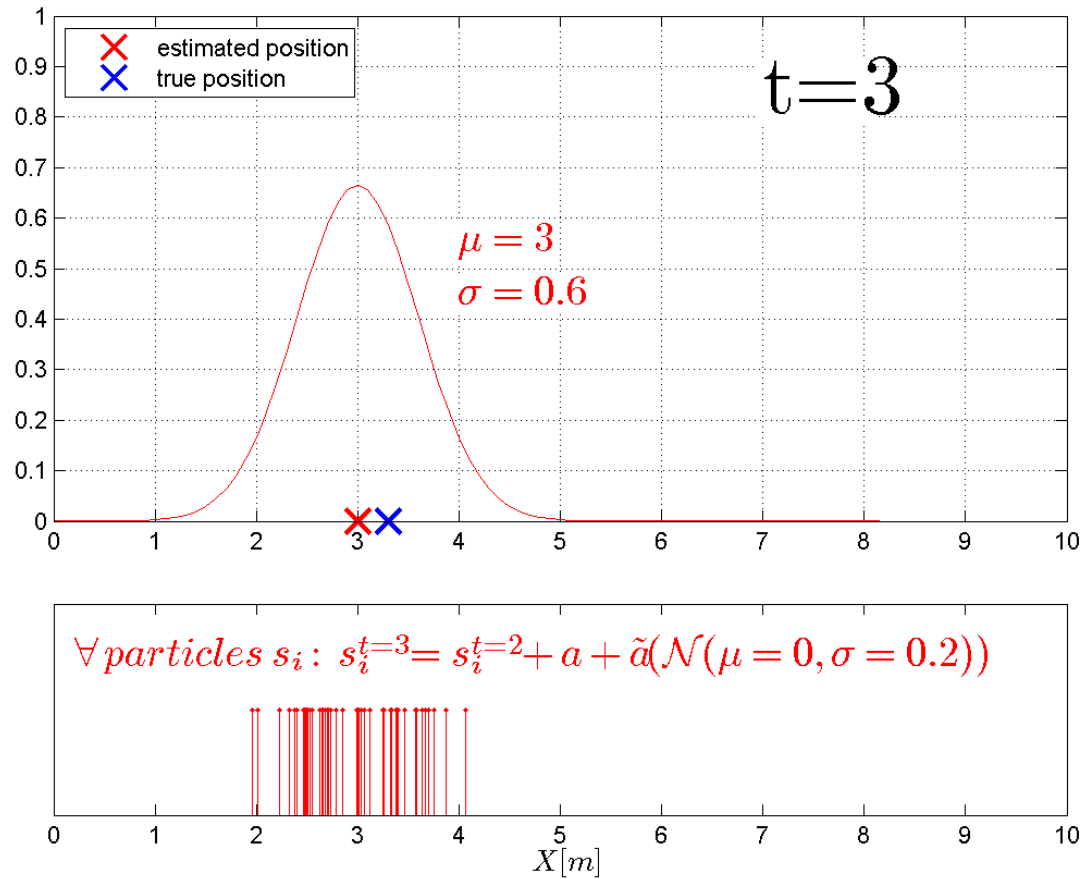




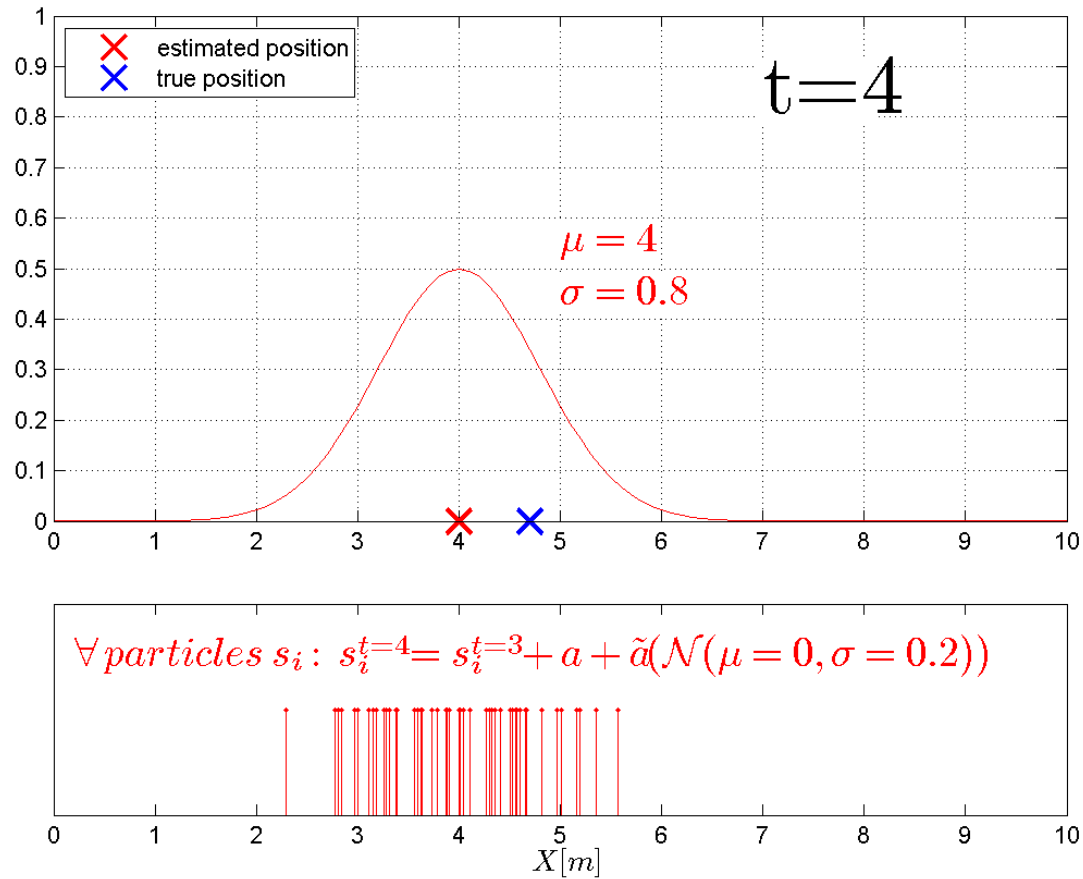
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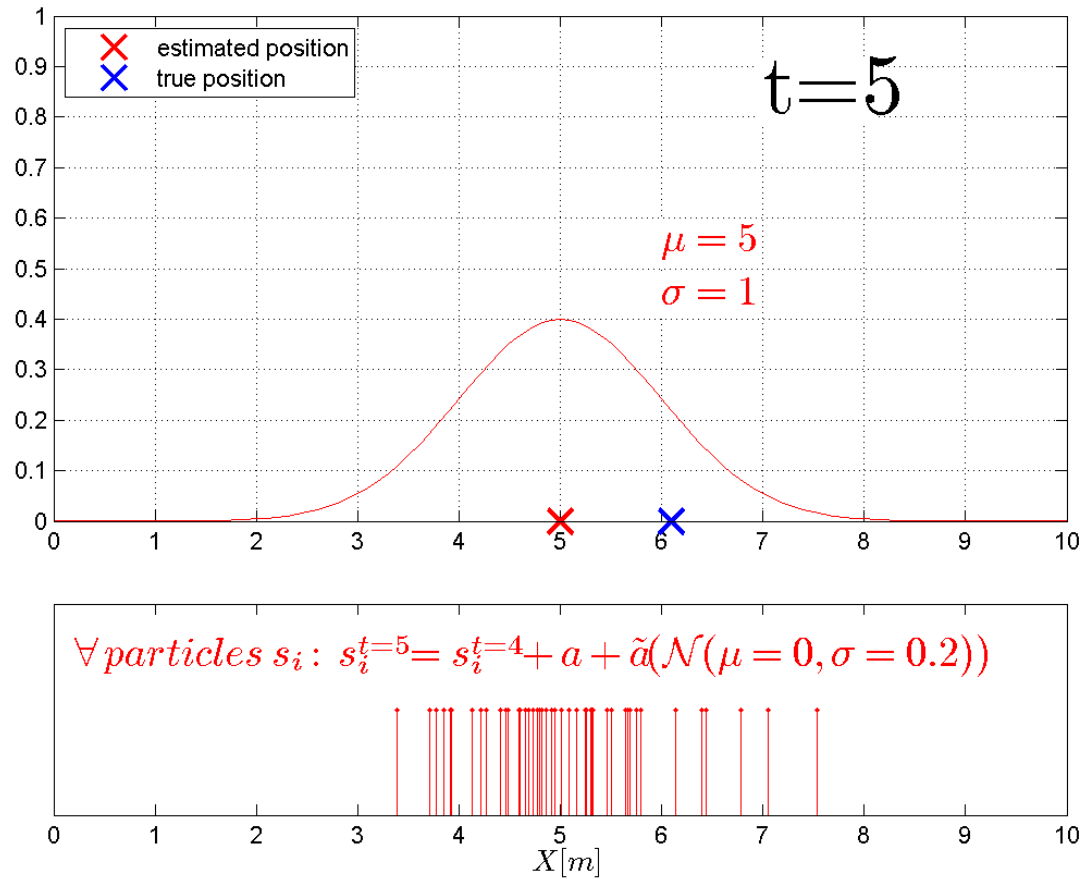
# Particle Filter Localization



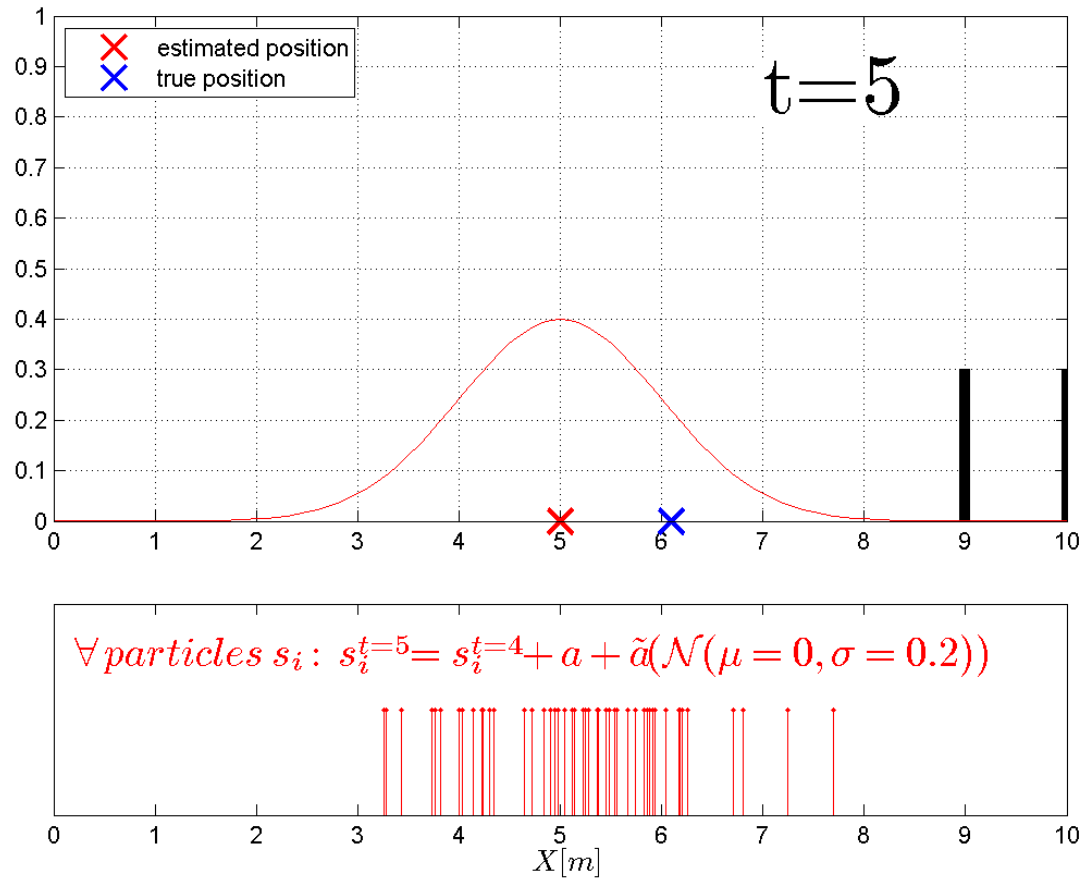
# Particle Filter Localization



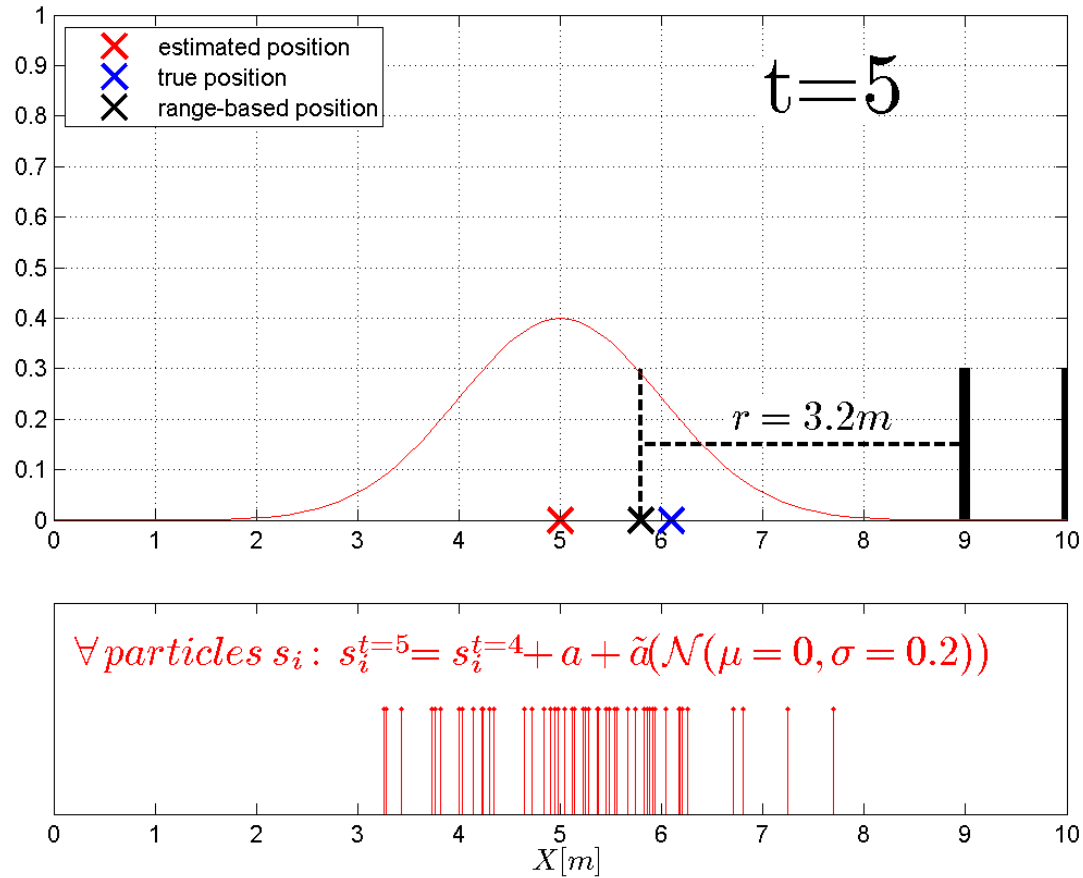
# Particle Filter Localization



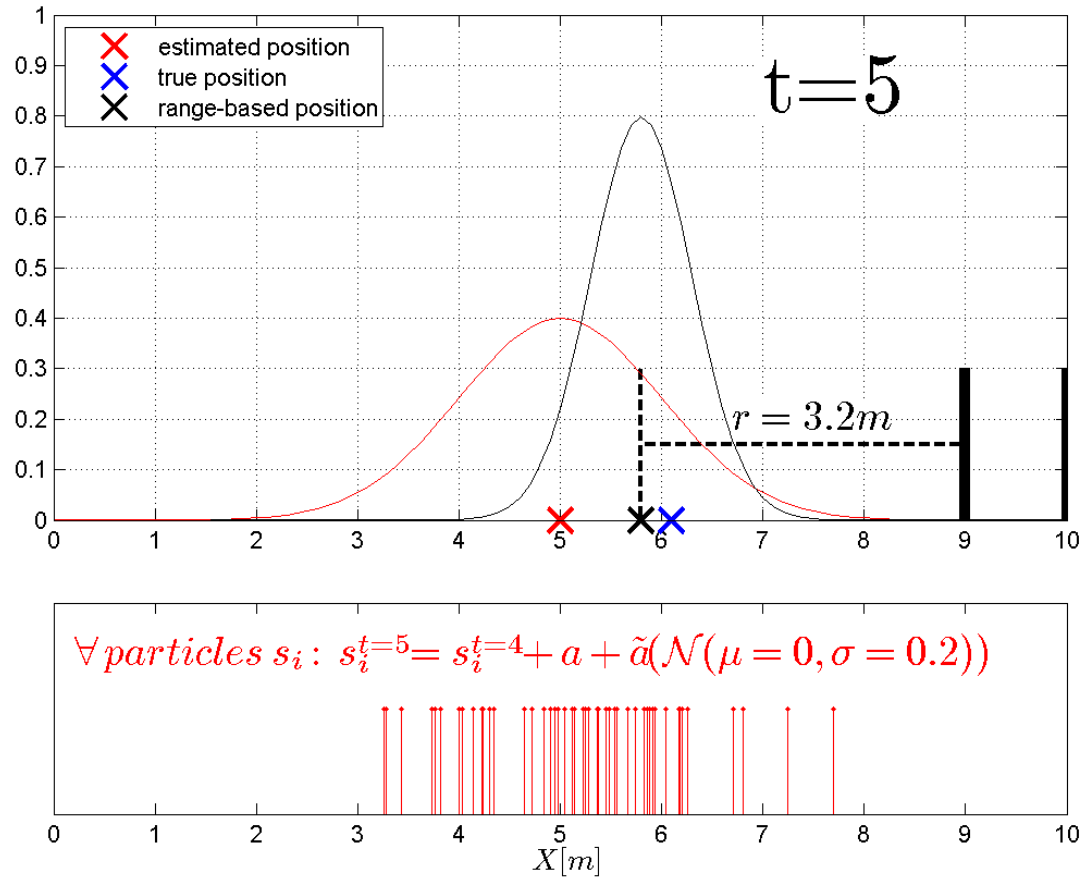
# Particle Filter Localization



# Particle Filter Localization



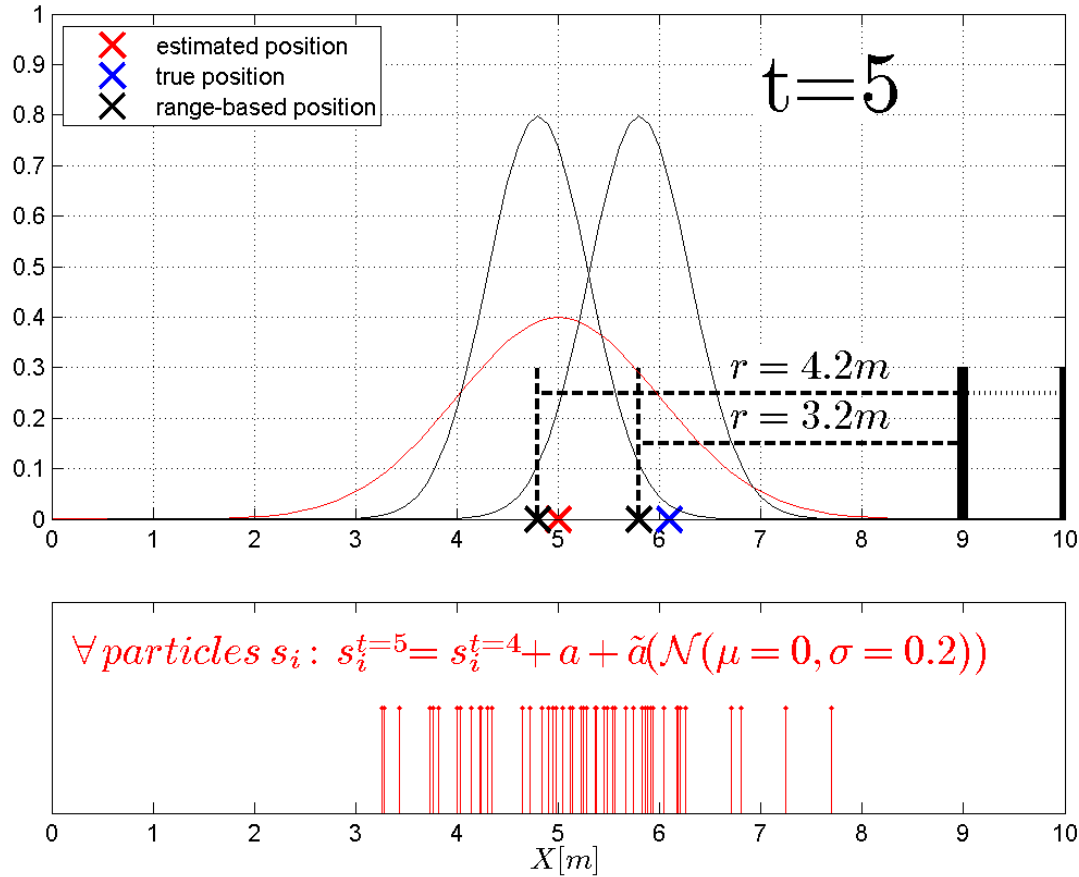
# Particle Filter Localization



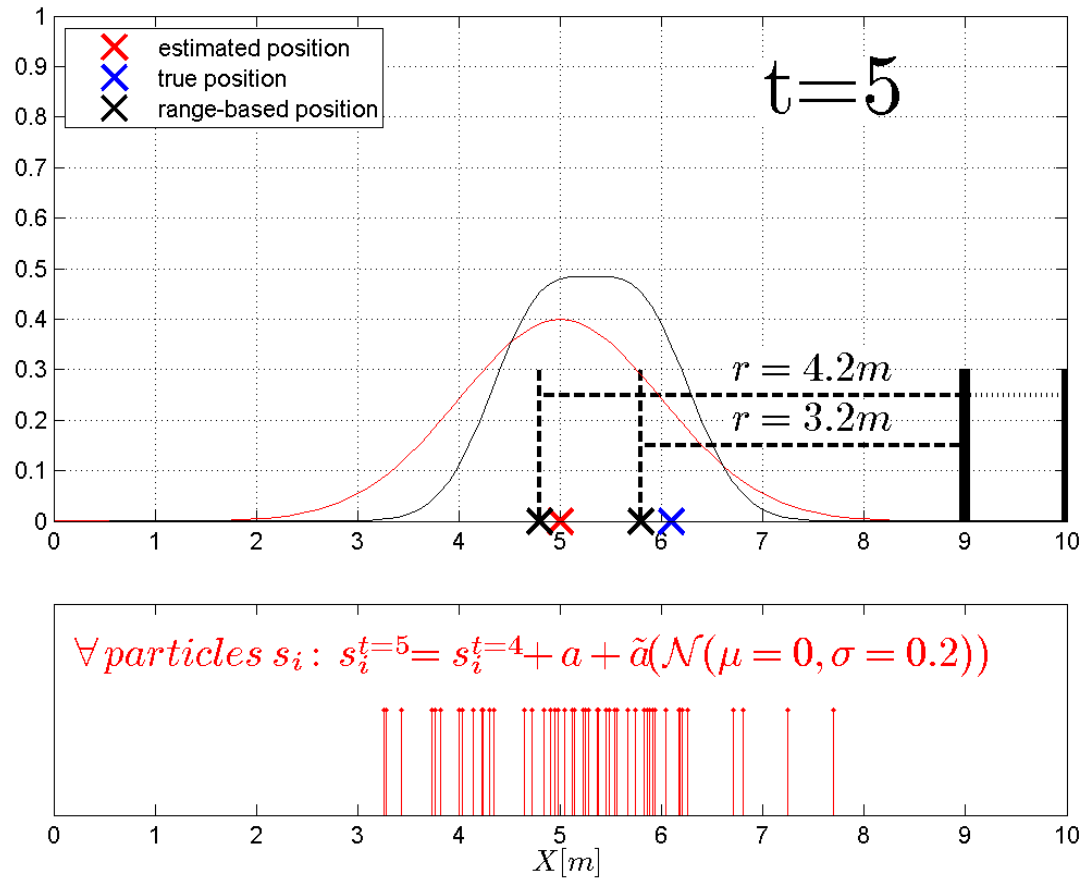




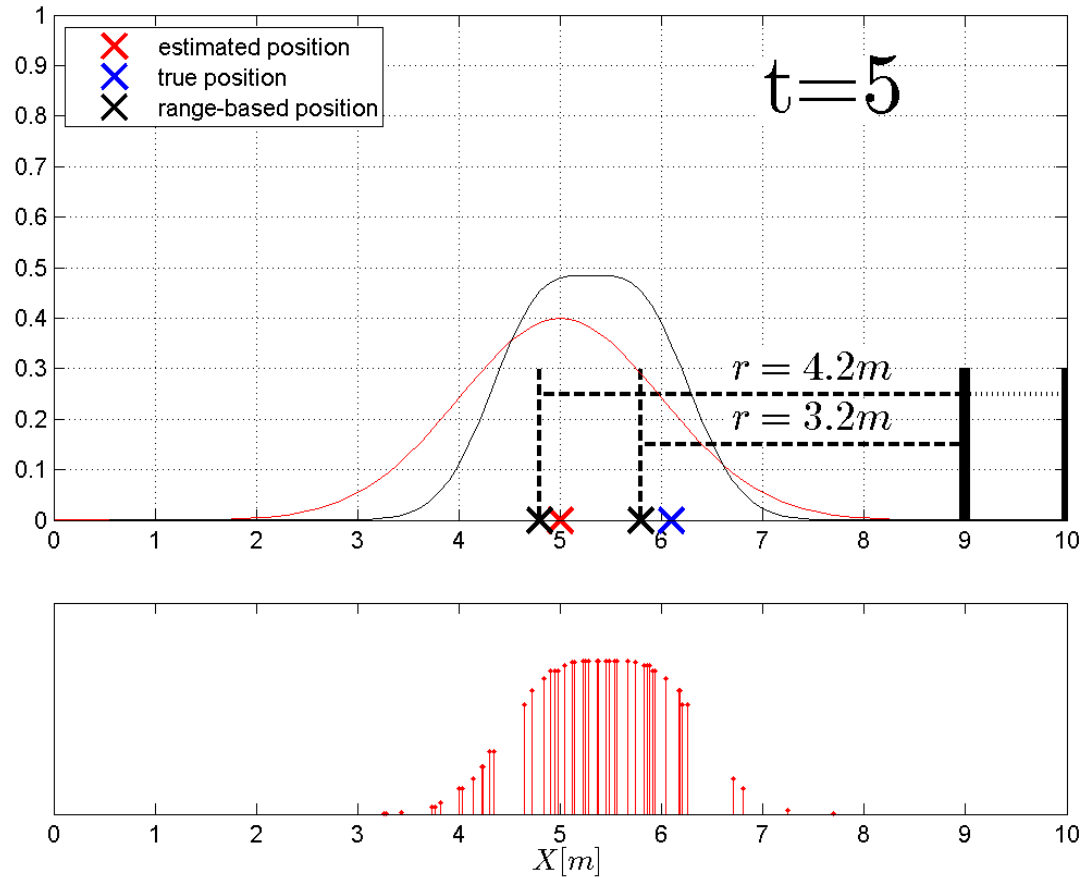
# Particle Filter Localization



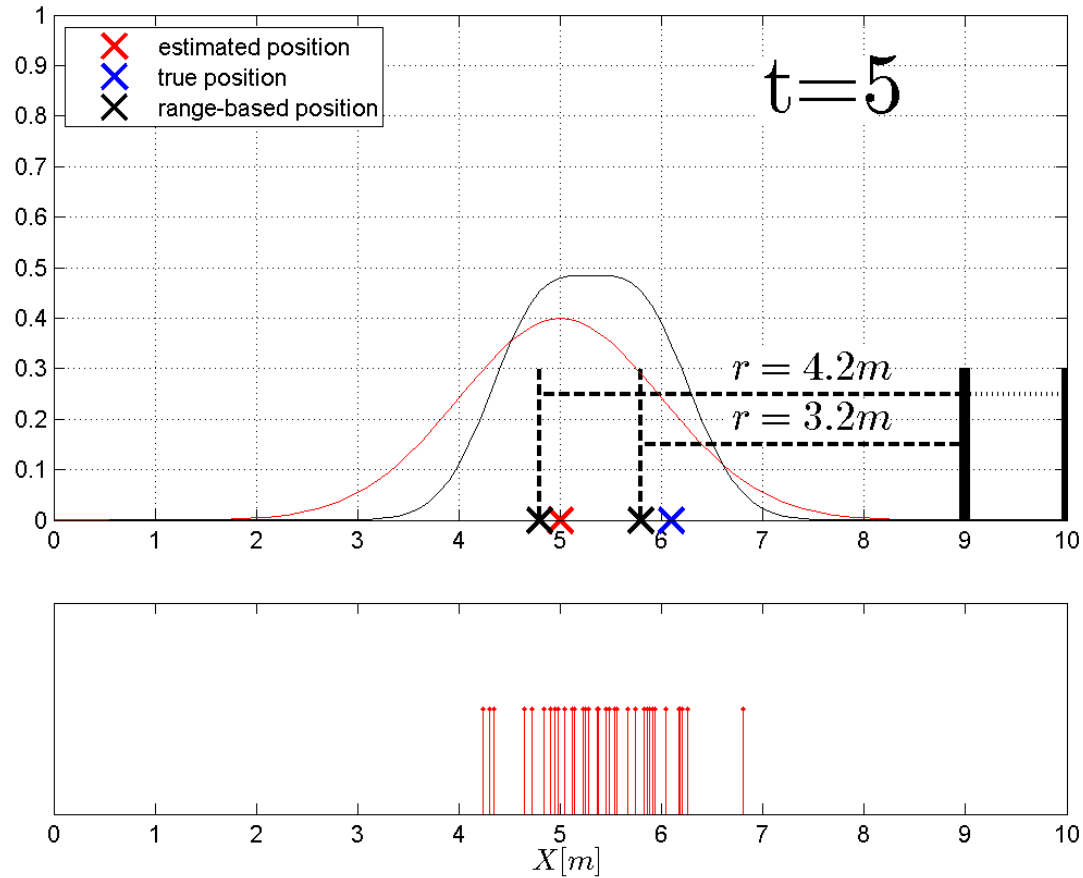
# Particle Filter Localization



# Particle Filter Localization



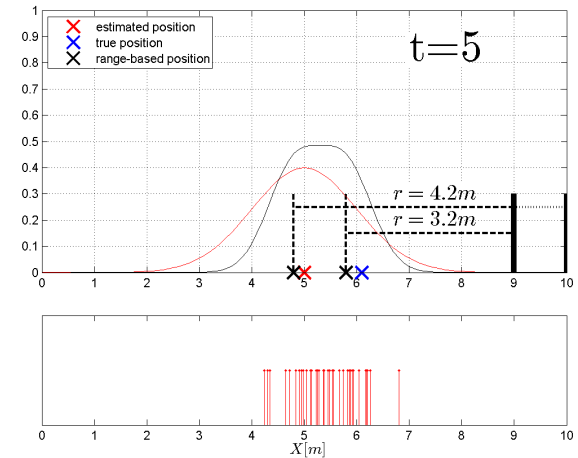
# Particle Filter Localization



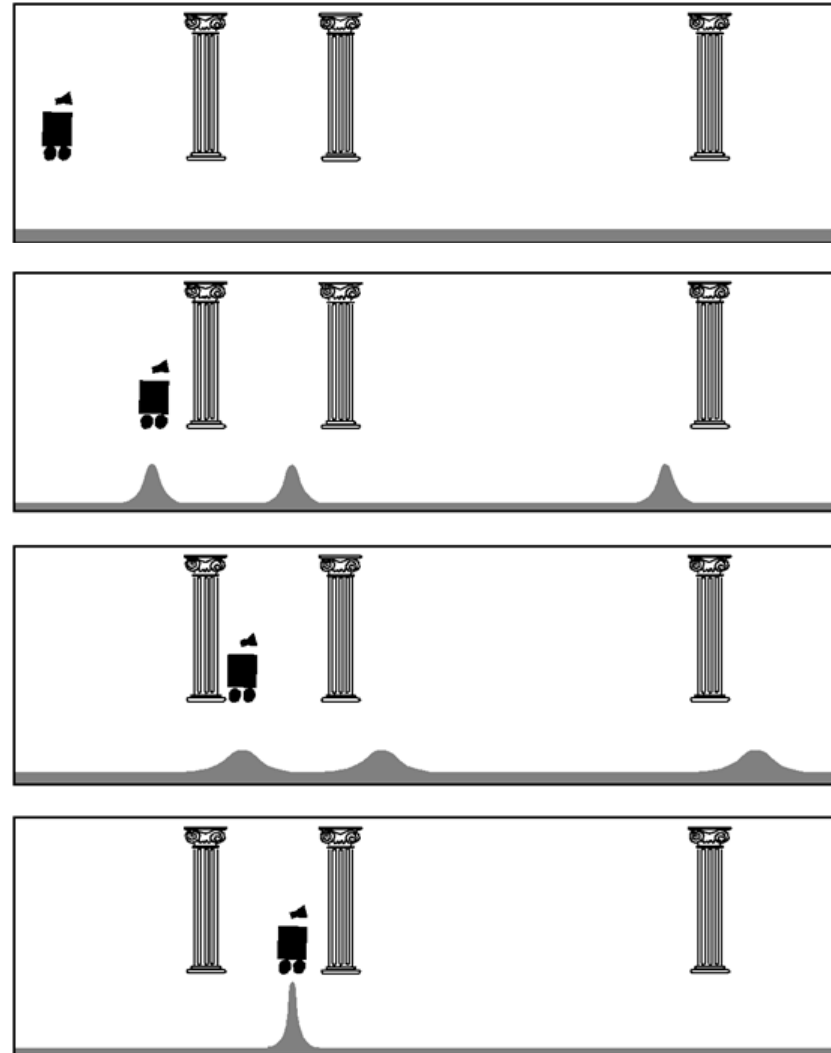
# Particle Filter Localization

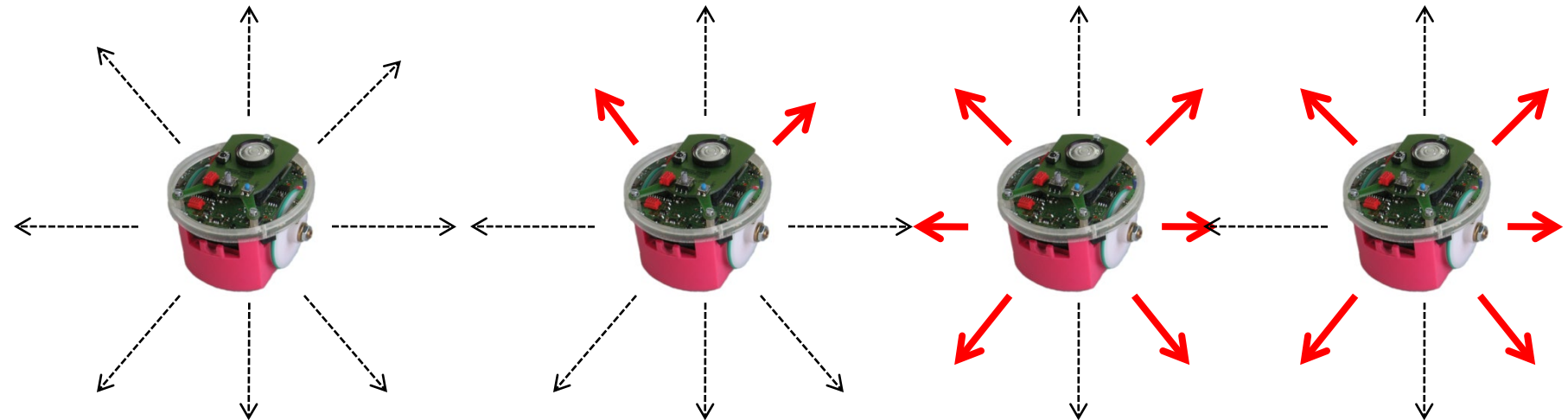
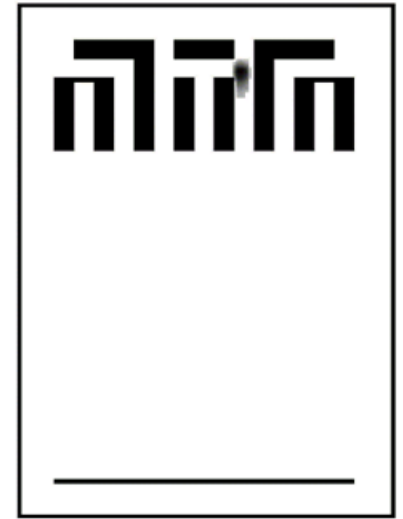
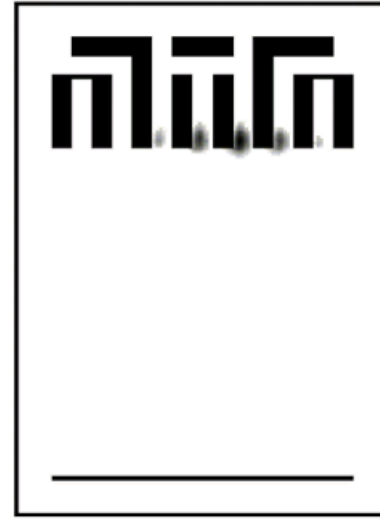
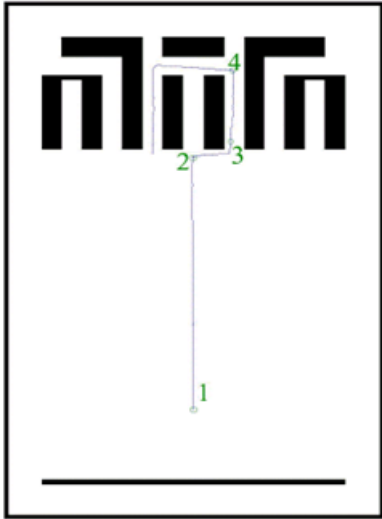
Belief representation through particle distribution

- Advantages:
  - Can model arbitrary beliefs
  - No assumptions on noise characteristic
- Disadvantages:
  - No unique solution
  - Not continuous
  - Computationally expensive
  - Tuning required



# Particle Filter Localization





# Conclusion



# Take Home Messages

- Estimation methods, including Kalman filter techniques are applicable to a large variety of problems involving noisy processes and noisy sensing, not just localization
- Feature-based localization is a way to compensate odometry limitations by leveraging exteroceptive sensors in addition to proprioceptive ones
- A Kalman filter is a computationally efficient, optimal recursive data processing algorithm that allows fusion of multiple estimates coming from either process or sensing models
- A Kalman filter assumes linear motion and sensor models characterized by white Gaussian noise: many problems in robot localization do not fulfill these assumptions
- Particle filters allow for working around limitations of Kalman filters (in localization problems and beyond) at the price of additional complexity and computational cost

# Additional Literature – Week 10

## Pointers

<http://www.probabilistic-robotics.org/>

## Books

- Siegwart R., Nourbakhsh I., and Scaramuzza D., “Introduction to Autonomous Mobile Robots, second Edition”, MIT Press, 2011.
- Thrun S., Burgard W., and Fox D., Probabilistic Robotics, MIT Press, 2005.
- Choset H., Lynch K. M., Hutchinson S., Kantor G., Burgard W., Kavraki L., and Thrun S., “Principles of Robot Motion”. MIT Press, 2005.
- Borenstein J., Everett H. R., and Feng L. “Navigating Mobile Robots: Systems and Techniques”, A. K. Peters, Ltd., 1996.