Data Assimilation Research Testbed Tutorial



Section 4: Other Updates for an Observed Variable.





'Classical' Monte Carlo algorithm by Evensen. Note: earliest references have error, use caution.







First fit a gaussian to ensemble sample.





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Obtain observation and observational error distribution.



Generate a random draw from the observation likelihood. Associate it with the first sample of the prior ensemble.



Associate a random draw from observation likelihood with each prior ensemble member.

This is called generating perturbed observations.





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Have sample of joint distribution of prior mean and observation.





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Adjusting the mean of the observation sample helps. Adjusting the variance to be exact may also help (or not). Outliers are a potential problem but could be removed.



For each prior/observation pair, find mean of posterior distribution.



Prior sample standard deviation measures uncertainty of prior mean estimate.





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Observation likelihood standard deviation measures uncertainty of observation estimate.





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Take product of the prior and observation distributions for the first sample

This is a standard product of gaussians.





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Mean of product is random sample of posterior.

Product of random samples is random sample of product.



Repeat this operation for every pair of prior and observation.





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Posterior sample retains much of prior samples structure; this is more apparent for larger ensembles.

Posterior sample mean and variance converge as function of ensemble size.





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Matlab exercises oned_ensemble, twod_ensemble, oned_model, run_lorenz_63 and run_lorenz_96 all allow selection of EnKF for assimilation.

In oned_ensemble and twod_ensemble, be sure to try the EnKF repeatedly. It's a stochastic algorithm so it produces a different answer each time.



