

Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

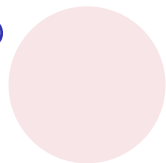
# Simone Del Favero

PhD Thesis dissertation

Title: Analysis and Development of  
Consensus-based Estimation Schemes.

Advisor: Sandro Zampieri

e-mail: [simone.delfavero@dei.unipd.it](mailto:simone.delfavero@dei.unipd.it)



DEPARTMENT OF  
INFORMATION  
ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY OF PADOVA



# Outline of the talk

Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

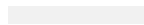
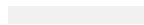
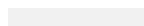
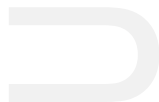
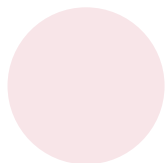
An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

- 1 Sensor Networks and Consensus
- 2 An application: Localization and Tracking
- 3 Distributed Sensors Calibration
- 4 Analysis of a Randomized Kalman Filter
- 5 Distributed Kalman Smoother



Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

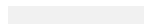
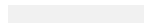
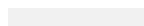
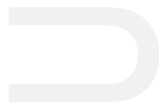
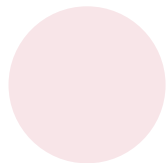
An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

- 1 Sensor Networks and Consensus
- 2 An application: Localization and Tracking
- 3 Distributed Sensors Calibration
- 4 Analysis of a Randomized Kalman Filter
- 5 Distributed Kalman Smoother



# Sensor Networks

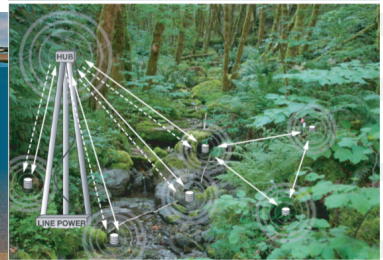
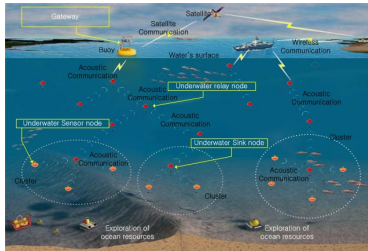
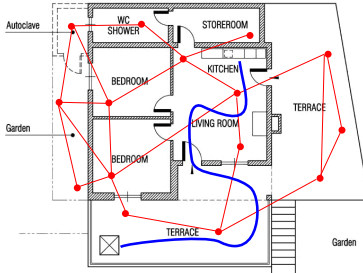
## Sensor Networks and Consensus

An application: Localization and Tracking

Distributed Sensors Calibration

Randomized Kalman Filter

Distributed Kalman Smoother



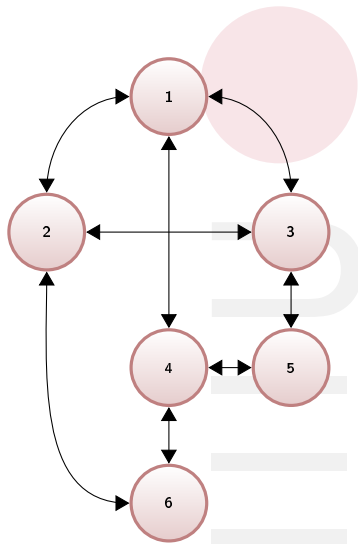
# What is Consensus?

The solutions we consider are based on **Consensus Algorithms**.

What is Consensus?

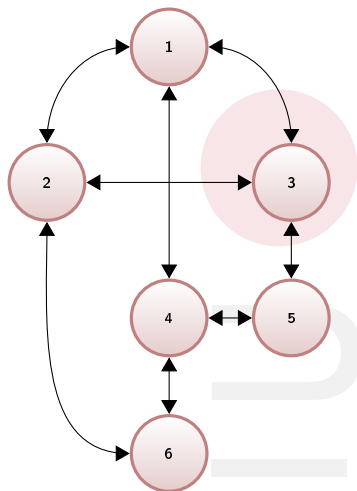
## Network of

- N agents
- Communication graph  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E})$
- i-th node neighbors:  $\mathcal{N}(i)$
- Every node stores a variable:  
node  $i$  stores  $x_i$ .



## Definition

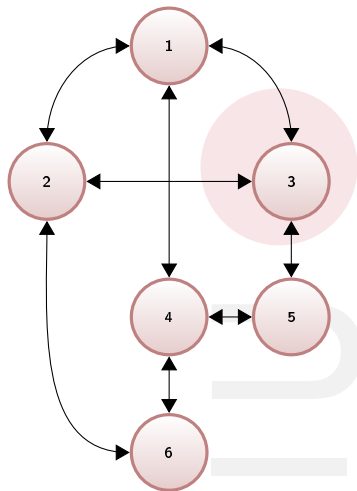
We call **Recursive Distributed Algorithm** adapted to the graph  $\mathcal{G}$  any recursive algorithm where the  $i$  node's update law of depends only on the state of  $i$  and in its neighbors  $j \in \mathcal{N}(i)$



$$x_i(t+1) = p_{ii}x_i(t) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} p_{ij}x_j(t)$$

## Definition

We call **Recursive Distributed Algorithm** adapted to the graph  $\mathcal{G}$  any recursive algorithm where the  $i$  node's update law of depends only on the state of  $i$  and in its neighbors  $j \in \mathcal{N}(i)$



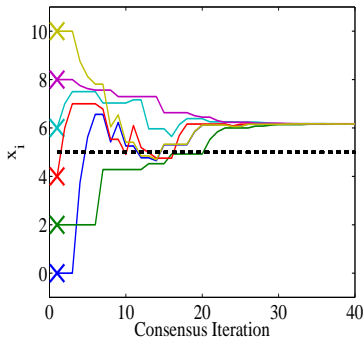
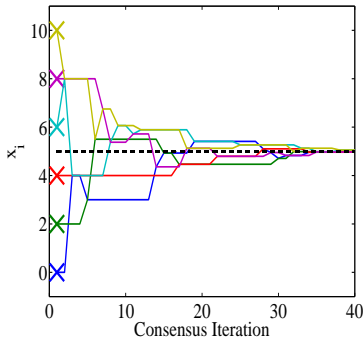
$$x(t+1) = P(t)x(t)$$

$$P_{i,j} \neq 0 \Rightarrow (j, i) \in \mathcal{E}$$

## Definition

A Recursive Distributed Algorithm adapted to the graph  $\mathcal{G}$  is said to **asymptotically achieve consensus** if

$$x_i(t) \rightarrow \alpha \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{N}$$



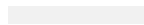
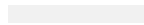
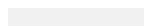
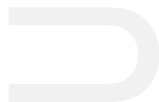
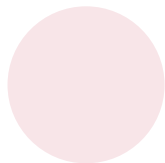
## Definition

A Recursive Distributed Algorithm adapted to the graph  $\mathcal{G}$  is said to **asymptotically achieve average consensus** if

$$x_i(t) \rightarrow \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} x_i(0) \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{N}$$



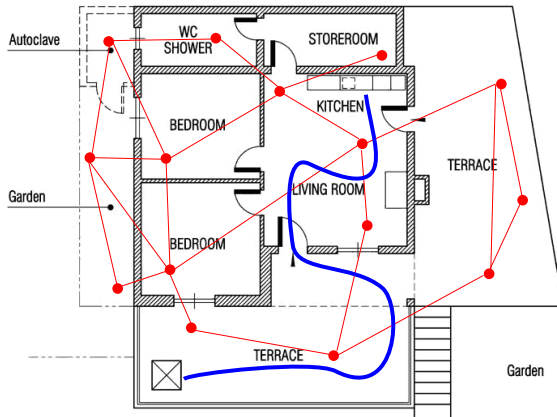
- 1 Sensor Networks and Consensus
- 2 An application: Localization and Tracking
- 3 Distributed Sensors Calibration
- 4 Analysis of a Randomized Kalman Filter
- 5 Distributed Kalman Smoother



# An important application

## Aim of the work:

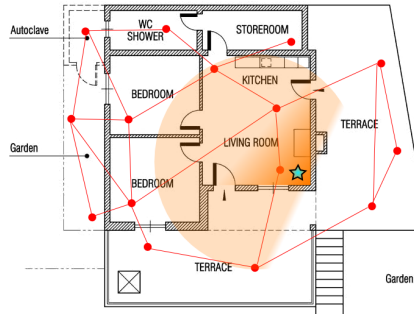
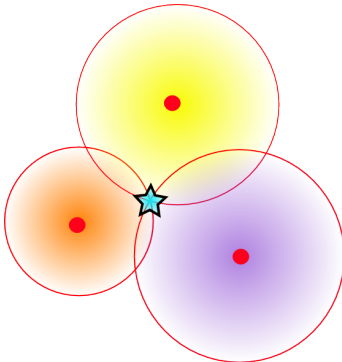
To address some modeling and algorithmic issues of localization and target tracking in wireless sensors networks



First, evaluate the distances nodes-the moving object.  
Then, reconstruct absolute moving object position

## Map Based

Most likely location that  
matches with pre-learned  
maps.

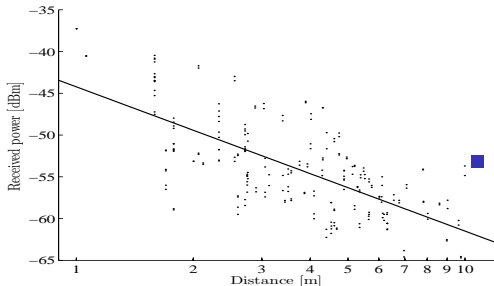


## Range based

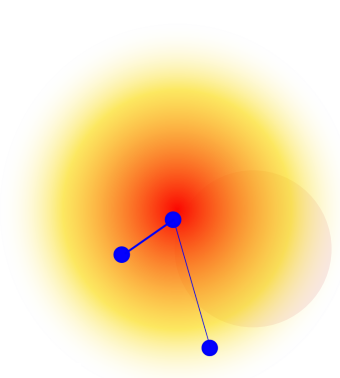
Triangulation (similarly to  
GPS)

## Localization and tracking, the idea:

- Nodes measure the **radio signal strength** of the **received packet**
- It depends on the **distance tx-rx**.



- From the distance it can be estimated the position of the nodes



Ideally:

- Estimate  $o_i$ :  $\hat{o}_i$
- Use  $\hat{o}_i$  to compensate the offset:  $o_i - \hat{o}_i = 0$

What we propose is:

$$o_i - \hat{o}_i = \alpha \quad \alpha \cong 0 \quad \text{equal for all nodes}$$

All nodes overestimate or underestimate the distance similarly.

The errors, in the triangulation process, cancel out partially.

# Sensor Calibration as a Consensus Problem

Asking

$$o_i - \hat{o}_i = \alpha \text{ equal for all nodes}$$

means to cast our sensor calibration problem into a consensus problem

Consider the consensus algorithm

$$(o_i - \hat{o}_i)^+ = (o_i - \hat{o}_i) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} p_{ij} ((o_j - \hat{o}_j) - (o_i - \hat{o}_i))$$

That leads to

$$\hat{o}_i^+ = \hat{o}_i - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}(i)} p_{ij} (\bar{P}_{rx}^{ji} - \bar{P}_{rx}^{ij} + \hat{o}_j - \hat{o}_i)$$

# Experimental Results

14/32

Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

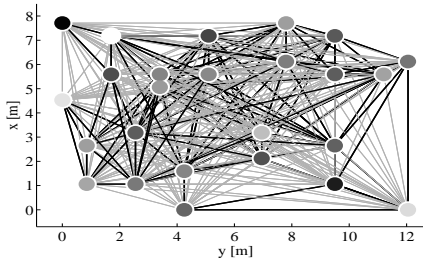
Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

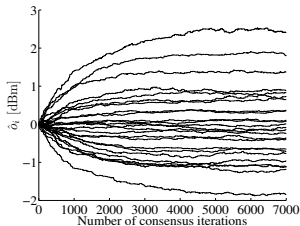
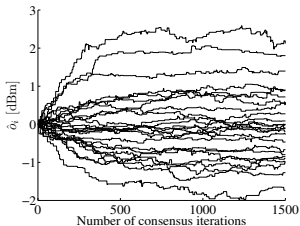
Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

Links divided in 2 categories:

- Training links (black)
- Validation links (gray)

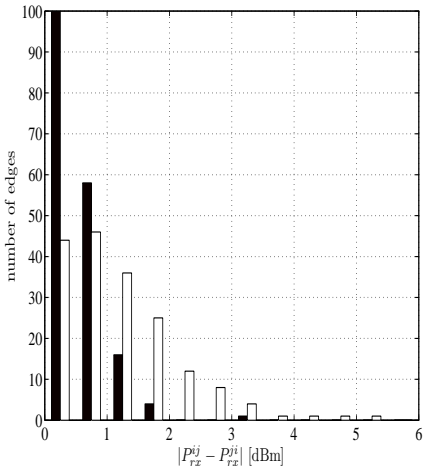


Estimate time evolution



# Experimental Results: Asymmetric error before and after offset correction

$$\Delta \bar{P}^{ij} = \bar{P}^{ij} - \bar{P}^{ji} = o_i - o_j$$



	Before	After
<1	50%	88 %
>2dB	35%	0.6 %

Effects of systematic errors  
when estimating distances

1dB  $\rightarrow \cong 2m \pm 0.28m$ .

6dB  $\rightarrow$  uncertainty for 0.9m to  
4.4m for an actual distance of 2m.



Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

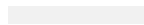
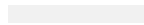
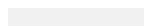
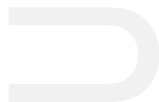
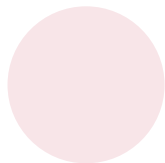
An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

**Randomized  
Kalman Filter**

Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

- 1 Sensor Networks and Consensus
- 2 An application: Localization and Tracking
- 3 Distributed Sensors Calibration
- 4 Analysis of a Randomized Kalman Filter**
- 5 Distributed Kalman Smoother



# Kalman Filter:

Carli et al.

R. Carli, A. Chiuso, L. Schenato and S. Zampieri (2008). *Distributed Kalman filtering using consensus strategies* IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, 26(4), pp. 622-633.

## Standard

Let us consider a simple case: scalar random walk

$$\begin{cases} x(t+1) = x(t) + w(t) \\ y_i(t) = x(t) + v_i(t) \end{cases}$$

The local Kalman Filter looks like

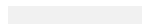
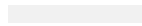
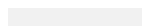
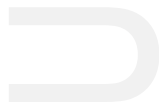
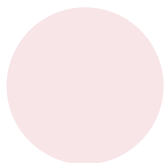
$$\hat{x}_i(t+1) = (1 - \ell)\hat{x}_i(t) + \ell y_i(t+1)$$

## A distributed algorithm

2 phases algorithm

$$\hat{x}_i^{\text{loc}}(t+1) = (1 - \ell)\hat{x}_i(t) + \ell y_i(t+1)$$

$$\hat{x}_i(t) = \alpha_{ii}(t)\hat{x}_i^{\text{loc}}(t) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} \alpha_{ij}(t)\hat{x}_{\text{loc}_j}(t)$$



# Kalman Filter:

## Carli et al.

R. Carli, A. Chiuso, L. Schenato and S. Zampieri (2008). *Distributed Kalman filtering using consensus strategies* IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, 26(4), pp. 622-633.

## Standard

Let us consider a simple case: scalar random walk

$$\begin{cases} x(t+1) = x(t) + w(t) \\ y_i(t) = x(t) + v_i(t) \end{cases}$$

The local Kalman Filter looks like

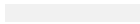
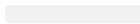
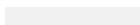
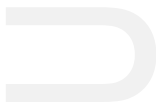
$$\hat{x}_i(t+1) = (1 - \ell)\hat{x}_i(t) + \ell y_i(t+1)$$

## A distributed algorithm

2 phases algorithm (rewritten using matrices)

$$\hat{x}^{\text{loc}}(t+1) = (1 - \ell)\hat{x}(t) + \ell y(t+1)$$

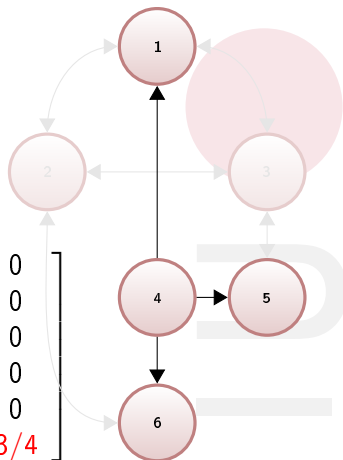
$$\hat{x}(t) = P(t)\hat{x}^{\text{loc}}(t)$$



Results on Convergence,  $P$  random matrix**Broadcast:**

At each time one node randomly wakes up and broadcasts its information to all its neighbors.

$$P(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 3/4 & 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 3/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 0 & 3/4 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Algorithm Analysis

$i$ -th Node Estimation Error :  $\tilde{x}_i(t) = x(t) - \hat{x}_i(t)$ .

Estimation Error Variance:

$$\Sigma(t+1) = (1-\ell)^2 \mathbb{E} [P(t)\Sigma(t)P^T(t)] + \ell^2 r \mathbb{E} [P(t)P^T(t)] + q \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T.$$

The quantity we are interested to

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Sigma(t)$$

No close form expression for such a quantity.

We propose an upperbound:

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \ell^2 r \frac{\lambda_j (\mathbb{E} [P(t)P^T(t)])}{1 - (1-\ell)^2 \lambda_j (\mathbb{E} [P(t)P^T(t)])} + \frac{q}{1 - (1-\ell)^2}$$

# Algorithm Analysis

Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

$i$ -th Node Estimation Error :  $\tilde{x}_i(t) = x(t) - \hat{x}_i(t)$ .

Estimation Error Variance:

$$\Sigma(t+1) = (1-l)^2 \mathbb{E} [P(t)\Sigma(t)P^T(t)] + l^2 r \mathbb{E} [P(t)P^T(t)] + q \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T.$$

The quantity we are interested to

$$\frac{1}{N} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \text{tr} \Sigma(t)$$

No close form expression for such a quantity.

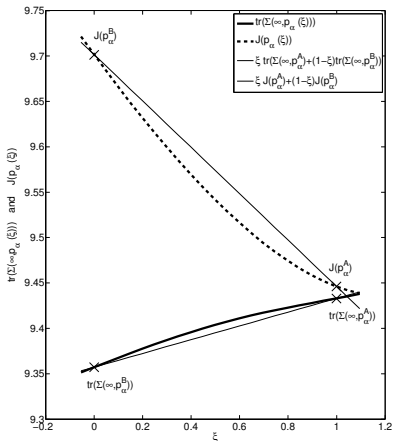
We propose an upperbound:

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} l^2 r \frac{\lambda_j (\mathbb{E} [P(t)P^T(t)])}{1 - (1-l)^2 \lambda_j (\mathbb{E} [P(t)P^T(t)])} + \frac{q}{1 - (1-l)^2}$$

# Design

Minimizing this quantity with respect to the link selection probability is a **convex** optimization problem.

On the contrary, the original cost function is **not convex** with respect to the link selection probability.



Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

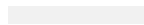
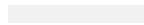
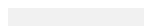
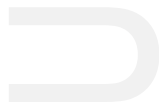
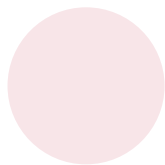
An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

**Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother**

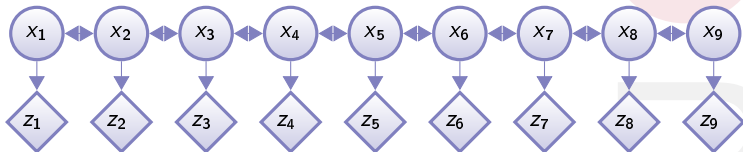
- 1 Sensor Networks and Consensus
- 2 An application: Localization and Tracking
- 3 Distributed Sensors Calibration
- 4 Analysis of a Randomized Kalman Filter
- 5 Distributed Kalman Smoother**



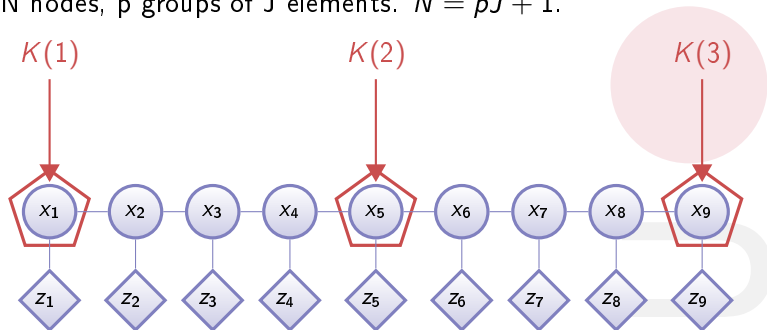


Aim:

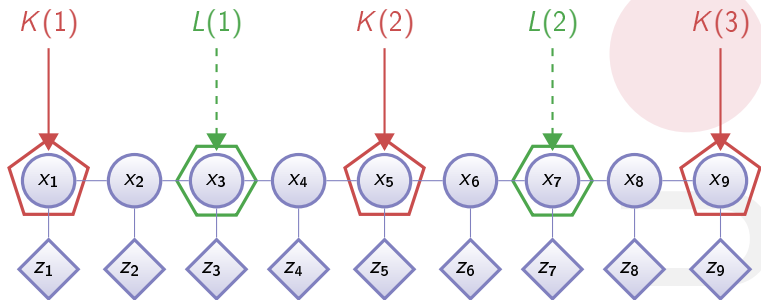
Estimation of different but correlated quantities.  
Kalman smoother on a Gauss Markov Random Field



$N$  nodes,  $p$  groups of  $J$  elements.  $N = pJ + 1$ .



$N$  nodes,  $p$  groups of  $J$  elements.  $N = pJ + 1$ .



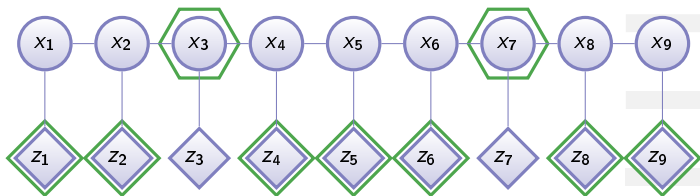
# Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialization

Second partition is active.

Node  $K(j)$ , the middle node of the group, computes an estimate of its state based only the measurements collected by the nodes of its group  $Z_{L(j-1,j)}$ .

$$x_{K(j)}^0 = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} \mid Z_{L(j-1,j)}]$$



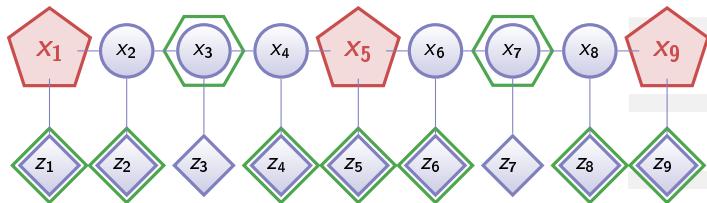
# Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialization

Second partition is active.

Node  $K(j)$ , the middle node of the group, computes an estimate of its state based only the measurements collected by the nodes of its group  $Z_{L(j-1,j)}$ .

$$x_{K(j)}^0 = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} \mid Z_{L(j-1,j)}]$$



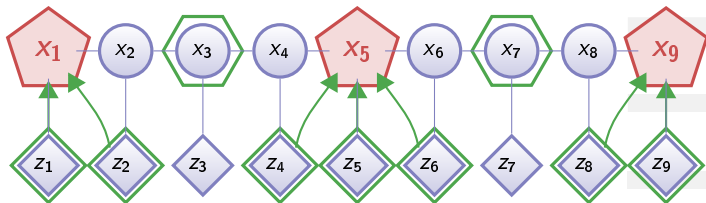
# Algorithm

## Step 1: Initialization

Second partition is active.

Node  $K(j)$ , the middle node of the group, computes an estimate of its state based only the measurements collected by the nodes of its group  $Z_{L(j-1,j)}$ .

$$x_{K(j)}^0 = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} \mid Z_{L(j-1,j)}]$$



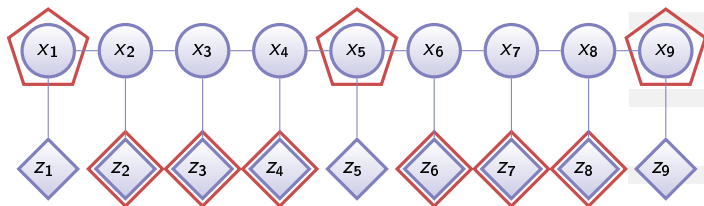
## Algorithm:

## Step 2:

First partition is active.

Node  $L(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{K(j,j+1)}$  and assuming that  $x_{K(j)}$  and  $x_{K(j+1)}$  were exactly  $X_{K(j)}^{\ell}$  and  $X_{K(j+1)}^{\ell}$ .

$$X_{L(j)}^{\ell+1} = \mathbb{E}[x_{L(j)} \mid Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)} = X_{K(j,j+1)}^{\ell}]$$



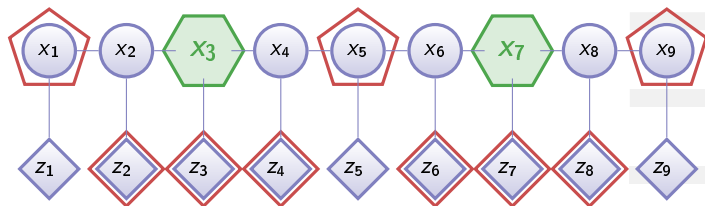
## Algorithm:

## Step 2:

First partition is active.

Node  $L(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{K(j,j+1)}$  and assuming that  $x_{K(j)}$  and  $x_{K(j+1)}$  were exactly  $X_{K(j)}^{\ell}$  and  $X_{K(j+1)}^{\ell}$ .

$$X_{L(j)}^{\ell+1} = \mathbb{E}[x_{L(j)} \mid Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)} = X_{K(j,j+1)}^{\ell}]$$





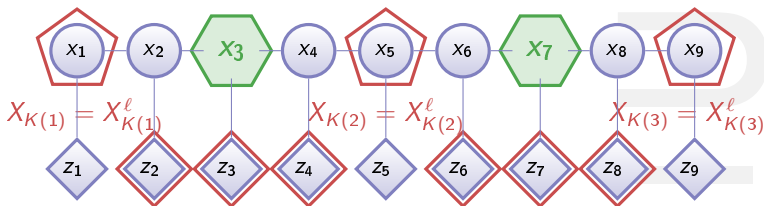
## Algorithm:

## Step 2:

First partition is active.

Node  $L(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{K(j,j+1)}$  and assuming that  $x_{K(j)}$  and  $x_{K(j+1)}$  were exactly  $X_{K(j)}^\ell$  and  $X_{K(j+1)}^\ell$ .

$$X_{L(j)}^{\ell+1} = \mathbb{E}[x_{L(j)} \mid Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)} = X_{K(j,j+1)}^\ell]$$



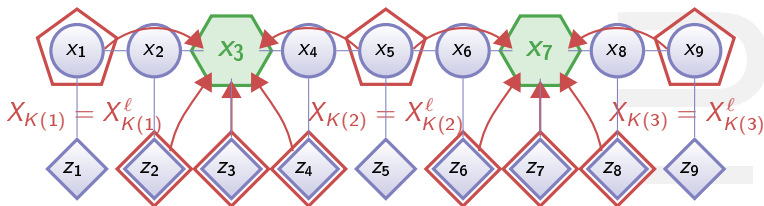
## Algorithm:

## Step 2:

First partition is active.

Node  $L(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{K(j,j+1)}$  and assuming that  $x_{K(j)}$  and  $x_{K(j+1)}$  were exactly  $X_{K(j)}^\ell$  and  $X_{K(j+1)}^\ell$ .

$$X_{L(j)}^{\ell+1} = \mathbb{E}[x_{L(j)} \mid Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)} = X_{K(j,j+1)}^\ell]$$



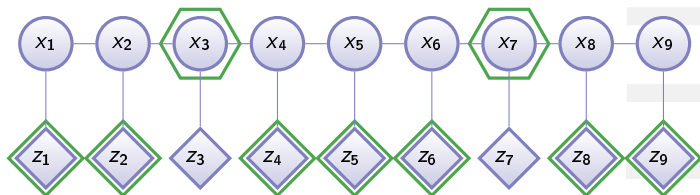
## Algorithm:

## Step 3:

Second partition is active.

Node  $K(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{L(j-1,j)}$  and assuming that  $x_{L(j-1)}$  and  $x_{L(j)}$  were exactly  $X_{L(j-1)}^\ell$  and  $X_{L(j)}^\ell$ .

$$X_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} \mid Z_{L(j-1,j)}, X_{L(j-1,j)} = X_{L(j-1,j)}^\ell]$$



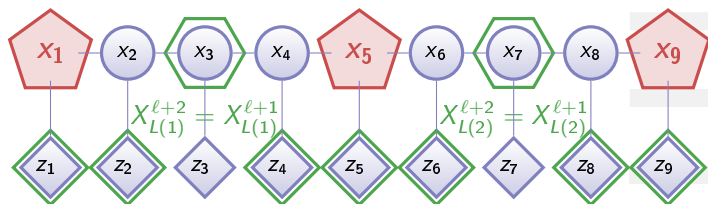
## Algorithm:

## Step 3:

Second partition is active.

Node  $K(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{L(j-1,j)}$  and assuming that  $x_{L(j-1)}$  and  $x_{L(j)}$  were exactly  $X_{L(j-1)}^\ell$  and  $X_{L(j)}^\ell$ .

$$X_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} \mid Z_{L(j-1,j)}, X_{L(j-1,j)} = X_{L(j-1,j)}^\ell]$$



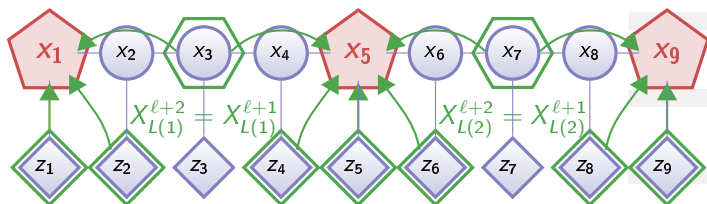
## Algorithm:

## Step 3:

Second partition is active.

Node  $K(j)$  (middle node) estimate of its state based only measurements collected in its group  $Z_{L(j-1,j)}$  and assuming that  $x_{L(j-1)}$  and  $x_{L(j)}$  were exactly  $X_{L(j-1)}^\ell$  and  $X_{L(j)}^\ell$ .

$$X_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} \mid Z_{L(j-1,j)}, X_{L(j-1,j)} = X_{L(j-1,j)}^\ell]$$



## Algorithm:

## Step 4:

**if** there has been a significant improvement in the estimate

$$|x_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} - x_{K(j)}^{\ell}| \geq \varepsilon$$

**then** set  $\ell = \ell + 2$  and go to step 2.

**else** the optimal estimate is achieved  $X_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} | Z]$ .

Move to Step 5.

## Step 5:

For any node  $i$  of the  $j$ -th group (Markov Property).

$$\mathbb{E}[x_i | Z] = \mathbb{E}[x_i | Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)}].$$

Compute all the other estimates of the  $j$ -th group as

$$\mathbb{E}[x_i | Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)} = X_{K(j,j+1)}^{\ell+2}].$$

## Algorithm:

## Step 4:

**if** there has been a significant improvement in the estimate

$$|x_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} - x_{K(j)}^{\ell}| \geq \varepsilon$$

**then** set  $\ell = \ell + 2$  and go to step 2.

**else** the optimal estimate is achieved  $X_{K(j)}^{\ell+2} = \mathbb{E}[x_{K(j)} | Z]$ .

Move to Step 5.

## Step 5:

For any node  $i$  of the  $j$ -th group (Markov Property).

$$\mathbb{E}[x_i | Z] = \mathbb{E}[x_i | Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)}].$$

Compute all the other estimates of the  $j$ -th group as

$$\mathbb{E}[x_i | Z_{K(j,j+1)}, X_{K(j,j+1)} = X_{K(j,j+1)}^{\ell+2}].$$

# Convergence Results:

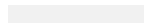
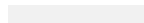
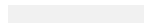
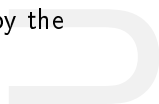
$$\delta_K^\ell = X_K^\ell - \mathbb{E}[X_K | Z]$$

## Theorem:

- 1 the error dynamics of the distributed smoothing algorithm at the nodes  $\{K(j)\}$  are regulated by the equation

$$\delta_K^{\ell+2} = R\delta_K^\ell$$

- 2  $R$  is asymptotically stable, i.e. all its eigenvalues are inside the open complex unit circle







## Specialization to the random walk case:

## Scalar Random Walk

$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= x_k + w_k & k = 1, \dots, N \\z_k &= x_k + v_k\end{aligned}$$

$w_k$  and  $v_k$  mutually independent white Gaussian noises

$$\mathbb{V}w_k = \lambda \quad \mathbb{V}v_k = \sigma$$

## Theorem

All the eigenvalues of  $R$  have the same asymptotic behavior,

$$\lambda(R(J)) \sim \text{const} \cdot \nu^{-J}, \quad \text{as } J \rightarrow +\infty$$

where

$$\nu = 1 + \frac{\lambda}{2\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{4\lambda}{\sigma} + \frac{\lambda^2}{\sigma^2}} \geq 1$$

# Summing Up

Sensor Networks  
and Consensus

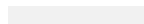
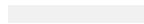
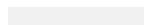
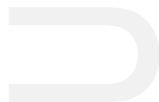
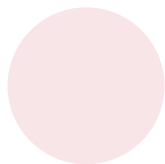
An application:  
Localization and  
Tracking

Distributed  
Sensors  
Calibration

Randomized  
Kalman Filter

Distributed  
Kalman  
Smoother

- 1 Sensor Networks and Consensus
- 2 An application: Localization and Tracking
- 3 Distributed Sensors Calibration
- 4 Analysis of a Randomized Kalman Filter
- 5 Distributed Kalman Smoother



## Journal papers:

- Appeared** Consensus-based distributed sensor calibration and least-square parameter identification in WSNs.  
Saverio Bolognani, Simone Del Favero, Luca Schenato, Damiano Varagnolo. *International Journal of Robust and Nonlinear Control*
- Submitted** A majorization inequality and its application to distributed Kalman filtering.  
S. Del Favero. and S. Zampieri. *Submitted to Automatica*
- Submitted** Unconstrained and inequality constrained distributed kalman smoother.  
G. Pillonetto, S. Del Favero and B. Bell *Submitted to Automatica*

## Conference papers:

- Accepted** Distributed Inequality Constrained Kalman Smoother.  
S. Del Favero, G. Pillonetto and B. Bell. 19th MTNS, Budapest, Hungary, 5-9 July 2010
- Appeared** Distributed estimation through randomized gossip Kalman filter.  
S. Del Favero and S. Zampieri. *Combined 48th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control and 28th Chinese Control Conference*, Shanghai 2009 December 16-18.
- Appeared** A distributed solution to estimation problems in wireless sensor networks leveraging broadcast communication..  
Simone Del Favero, Federico Librino, Michele Zorzi, Francesco Zorzi and Albert Harris III. *WONS 2009, The Sixth International Conference on Wireless On-demand Network Systems and Services, February 2-4, 2009, Snowbird, Utah, USA*
- Appeared** Distributed Sensor Calibration and Least-Square Parameter Identification in WSNs Using Consensus Algorithms.  
Saverio Bolognani, Simone Del Favero, Luca Schenato, Damiano Varagnolo. *Forty-Sixth Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing September 23 - September 26, 2008 Allerton Retreat Center, Monticello, Illinois*