

Optimal and Learning Control

for

Autonomous Robots

Lecture 11



Farbod Farshidian
Agile & Dexterous Robotics Lab

Evaluation!

Please fill in the course evaluation and use the opportunity to make free text comments to give us useful feedback!

Script Erratum

Algorithm 6 ϵ -soft, On-Policy Monte Carlo Algorithm

choose a constant learning rate, ω

choose a positive $\epsilon \in (0, 1]$

$Q^\pi(x, u) \leftarrow$ arbitrary

$\pi \leftarrow$ an arbitrary ϵ -soft policy

Repeat forever:

(a) generate an episode using π

(b) Policy Evaluation

for each pair (x, u) appearing in the episode

$R \leftarrow$ return following the first occurrence of (x, u)

$Q^\pi(x, u) \leftarrow Q^\pi(x, u) + \omega (R - Q^\pi(x, u))$

(c) Policy Improvement

for each: x in the episode:

$u^* \leftarrow \arg \max_u Q^\pi(x, u)$

For all $a \in \mathcal{U}(x)$:

$$\pi(x, u) \leftarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\epsilon}{|\mathcal{U}(x)|} & \text{if } u \neq u^* \\ 1 - \epsilon \left(1 - \frac{1}{|\mathcal{U}(x)|}\right) & \text{if } u = u^* \end{cases}$$

(d) (optional) decrease ϵ .

Recap

Brownian Motion

It is stochastic process.

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{w}}(t, w) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2t}} \exp\left(-\frac{(w - \mu t)^2}{2\sigma^2t}\right)$$

$$\mathbb{E}\{w(t)\} = \mu t$$

$$\text{Var}\{w(t)\} = \sigma^2 t$$

Brownian Motion (cnt)

$$dw(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} w(t + \Delta t) - w(t)$$

1. The increment process, $dw(t)$, has a Gaussian distribution with the mean and the variance, $\mu\Delta t$ and $\sigma^2\Delta t$ respectively.
2. The increment process, $dw(t)$, is statistically independent of $w(s)$ for any $s \leq t$.

Stochastic Differential Equation

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{w}$$

Drift Coefficient

Diffusion Coefficient

Brownian Motion

$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}dt)$

The conditional PDF is Gaussian

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{x}}(t + \Delta t, \mathbf{x} \mid t, \mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{y})\Delta t, \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{y})\mathbf{g}^T(t, \mathbf{y})\Delta t\right)$$

Fokker Planck Equation

- Extracting samples: SDE

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{w}, \quad \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}dt)$$

- The PDF of process: Fokker Planck equation

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{x}(t)}(t, \mathbf{x} \mid s, \mathbf{y})$$

$$\partial_t \mathbb{P} = -\nabla_x^T (\mathbf{f}\mathbb{P}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} [\nabla_{xx} (\mathbf{g}\mathbf{g}^T \mathbb{P})]$$

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{x}(t)}(t = s, \mathbf{x} \mid s, \mathbf{y}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

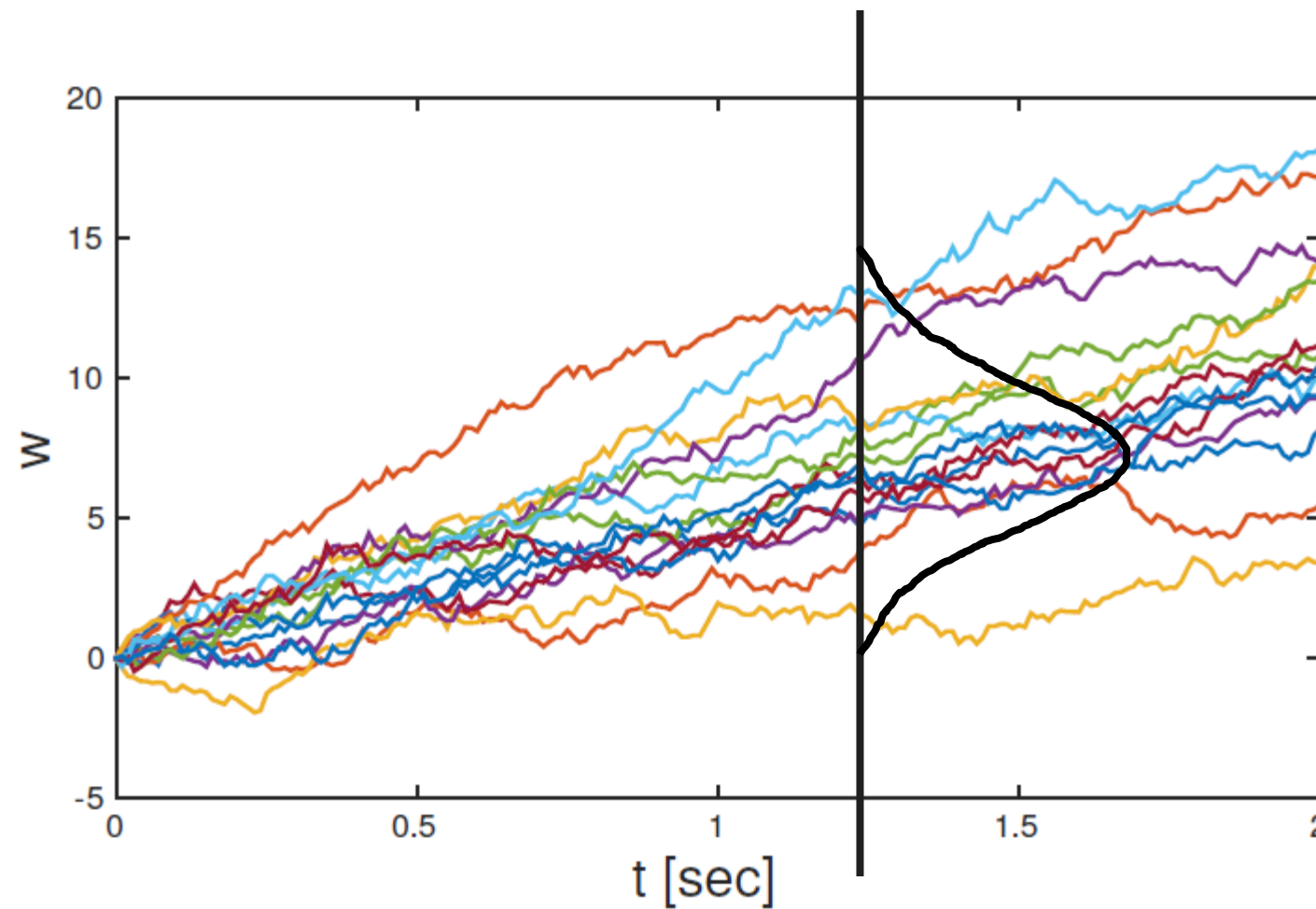
Fokker Planck Eq.

Initial Condition

The effective covariance



Fokker Planck Equation (cnt)



Linear Markov Decision Process

Three conditions on the optimal control problem:

1) Quadratic control cost

$$J = E \left\{ \Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt \right\}$$

2) Control affine system

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x}) (\mathbf{u}dt + d\mathbf{w}), \quad d\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma dt)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x}) (\mathbf{u} + \varepsilon), \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$$

3) $\mathbf{R}\Sigma = \lambda \mathbf{I}$

Linear Markov Decision Process (cnt)

nonlinear PDE

$$-\partial_t V^* = q - \frac{1}{2} \nabla_x^T V^* \Xi \nabla_x V^* + \nabla_x^T V^* \mathbf{f} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\nabla_{xx} V^* \Xi]$$



$$V^*(t, \mathbf{x}) = -\lambda \log \Psi(t, \mathbf{x})$$

$$-\partial_t \Psi = -\frac{1}{\lambda} q \Psi + \mathbf{f}^T \nabla_x \Psi + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\Xi \nabla_{xx} \Psi]$$

$$-\partial_t \Psi = \mathbf{H}[\Psi] \quad \mathbf{H} = -\frac{1}{\lambda} q + \mathbf{f}^T \nabla_x + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\Xi \nabla_{xx}]$$

$$\Psi(t_f, \mathbf{x}) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\lambda} \Phi(\mathbf{x})\right)$$

Final Value problem

$$\mathbf{g} \Sigma \mathbf{g}^T = \lambda \Xi$$

The effective Covariance

Integral by Parts

$$d(fg) = df g + f dg$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) g^1(x) dx = fg(+\infty) - fg(-\infty) - \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f^1(x) g(x) dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} g(x) = 0 \\ & = - \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f^1(x) g(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

In general case:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) g^i(x) dx = (-1)^i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f^i(x) g(x) dx$$

Path Integral Optimal Control

Function Inner Product

- Inner product for two vectors

$$\langle \mathbf{u} | \mathbf{v} \rangle = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v} = \sum_i u_i v_i$$

- Inner product for two functions

$$\langle f | g \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)g(x) dx$$

Function Inner Product (cnt.)

- Hermitian Conjugate operator (\mathbf{H}^\dagger) of a linear operator \mathbf{H}

$$\langle \mathbf{u} | \mathbf{H}\mathbf{v} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{H}^\dagger \mathbf{u} | \mathbf{v} \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{u}^T (\mathbf{H}\mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{H}^\dagger \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{H}^\dagger = \mathbf{H}^T$$

- In the function space

$$\langle f | \mathbf{H}g \rangle = \langle \mathbf{H}^\dagger f | g \rangle$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \mathbf{H}g(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{H}^\dagger f(x) g(x) dx$$

Path Integral: Inner Product

- Assume the following inner product

$$\langle \rho | \Psi \rangle = \int \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

where Ψ is the Desirability function,

and ρ is an arbitrary function which satisfies:

$$\lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow \infty} \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

Path Integral: Inner Product (cnt)

- Assume the linear operator introduced by the Fokker Planck equation

$$\begin{aligned} H &= -\frac{1}{\lambda}q + \mathbf{f}^T \nabla_x + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\Xi \nabla_{xx}] \\ &= -\frac{1}{\lambda}q + \sum_i \mathbf{f}_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i,j} \Xi_{ij} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \end{aligned}$$

What is Hermitian Conjugate of “H” in the function space?

Path Integral: Inner Product (cnt)

According to the Hermitian Conjugate definition:

$$\langle \rho | \mathbf{H}[\Psi] \rangle = \langle \mathbf{H}^\dagger[\rho] | \Psi \rangle$$

By using integral by parts:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}^\dagger &= -\frac{1}{\lambda}q - \sum_i \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_i}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2 \Xi_{ij}}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \\ &= -\frac{1}{\lambda}q - \nabla_x^T \mathbf{f} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\nabla_{xx} \Xi] \end{aligned}$$

Path Integral: Inner Product (cnt)

Summary:

$$\langle \rho | \mathbf{H}[\Psi] \rangle = \langle \mathbf{H}^\dagger[\rho] | \Psi \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{H} = -\frac{1}{\lambda}q + \mathbf{f}^T \nabla_x + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\mathbf{\Xi} \nabla_{xx}]$$

$$\mathbf{H}^\dagger = -\frac{1}{\lambda}q - \nabla_x^T \mathbf{f} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\nabla_{xx} \mathbf{\Xi}]$$

ρ Function

- General idea: if ρ satisfies the following

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \rho | \Psi \rangle = 0$$

- 1) ρ can be a solution to an initial value problem

$$\rho(t = s, \mathbf{x})$$

- 2) The following equality holds

$$\langle \rho | \Psi \rangle (t = s) = \langle \rho | \Psi \rangle (t = t_f)$$

ρ Function (cnt)

Starting with: $\frac{d}{dt} \langle \rho | \Psi \rangle = 0$

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \langle \rho | \Psi \rangle$$

$$= \int \partial_t \left(\rho(t, \mathbf{x}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{x}) \right) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$= \int \partial_t \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{x}) + \rho(t, \mathbf{x}) \partial_t \Psi(t, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$= \langle \partial_t \rho | \Psi \rangle + \langle \rho | \partial_t \Psi \rangle$$

It satisfies the LMDP

$$-\partial_t \Psi = H[\Psi]$$

ρ Function (cnt)

$$0 = \langle \partial_t \rho | \Psi \rangle - \langle \rho | H[\Psi] \rangle$$

Using the Hermitian Conjugate operator

$$0 = \langle \partial_t \rho | \Psi \rangle - \langle H^\dagger[\rho] | \Psi \rangle$$

$$\langle \partial_t \rho - H^\dagger[\rho] | \Psi \rangle = 0$$

A trivial solution is:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho &= H^\dagger[\rho] \\ &= -\frac{1}{\lambda} q \rho - \nabla_x^T (\mathbf{f} \rho) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\nabla_{xx}(\mathbf{\Xi} \rho)] \end{aligned}$$

Comparison with Fokker Planck

$$\partial_t \mathbb{P} = -\nabla_x^T (\mathbf{f} \mathbb{P}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} [\nabla_{xx} (\mathbf{g} \mathbf{g}^T \mathbb{P})]$$

$$\partial_t \rho = -\frac{1}{\lambda} q \rho - \nabla_x^T (\mathbf{f} \rho) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr} [\nabla_{xx} (\mathbf{\Xi} \rho)]$$

It attenuates the probability distribution over time.

Comparison with Fokker Planck (cnt)

$$\partial_t \mathbb{P} = -\nabla_x^T (\mathbf{f} \mathbb{P}) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} [\nabla_{xx} (\mathbf{g} \mathbf{g}^T \mathbb{P})]$$

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{x}(t)}(t = s, \mathbf{x} \mid s, \mathbf{y}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

The initial condition

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{w}, \quad \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}dt)$$

$$\mathbf{x}(s) = \mathbf{y}$$

This can be used to
extract samples

Comparison with Fokker Planck (cnt)

- An initial condition:

$$\partial_t \rho = -\frac{1}{\lambda} q \rho - \nabla_x^T (\mathbf{f} \rho) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \text{Tr}[\nabla_{xx}(\Xi \rho)]$$

$$\rho(t = s, \mathbf{x}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

- A method to numerically simulate the solution:

$$d\mathbf{x}(t_i) = \mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))dt + \mathbf{g}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))d\mathbf{w}, \quad \mathbf{x}(t_0 = s) = \mathbf{y} \quad d\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma dt)$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x}(t_{i+1}) = \mathbf{x}(t_i) + d\mathbf{x}(t_i) & \text{with probability } \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\lambda} q dt\right) \\ \mathbf{x}(t_{i+1}) : \text{annihilation} & \text{with probability } 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\lambda} q dt\right) \end{cases}$$

ρ Function : Features

- It is a MDP: $\tau = \{\mathbf{x}(t_0), \mathbf{x}(t_1), \dots, \mathbf{x}(t_N)\}$

$$\rho(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) = \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \rho(t_{i+1}, \mathbf{x}(t_{i+1}) \mid t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)), \quad \mathbf{x}(t_0 = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

- The conditioned probability(!!) is

$$\rho(t_{i+1}, \mathbf{x}(t_{i+1}) \mid t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) = e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} q(t, \mathbf{x}(t)) dt} \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}(t_{i+1}) \mid \mathbf{x}(t_i) + \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}(t)) dt, \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} \Xi(t, \mathbf{x}(t)) dt\right)$$

The probability of keeping the sample

Trajectory PDF

- Trajectory joint probability distribution

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) &= \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt} \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}(t_i) + \mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt, \Xi(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt\right) \\
 &= \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}(t_i) + \mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt, \Xi(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt\right) e^{\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} -\frac{1}{\lambda} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt} \\
 &= \mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) e^{\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} -\frac{1}{\lambda} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt}
 \end{aligned}$$

where \mathbb{P}_{uc} is the uncontrolled system trajectory PDF.

$$d\mathbf{x}(t_i) = \mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt + \mathbf{g}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) d\mathbf{w}, \quad \mathbf{x}(t_0 = s) = \mathbf{y} \quad d\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma dt)$$

A Single State PDF

Marginalize the trajectory joint PDF

$$\tau = \{\mathbf{x}(t_0), \mathbf{x}(t_1) \dots, \mathbf{x}(t_n)\}$$

Sub-trajectory

$$\rho(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) e^{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} -\frac{1}{\lambda} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt}$$

Sub-trajectory PDF

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}(t_n) \mid s, \mathbf{y}) = \int \mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) e^{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} -\frac{1}{\lambda} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt} d\mathbf{x}(t_1) \dots d\mathbf{x}(t_{n-1})$$

ρ Function



- 1) ρ should be a solution to an initial value problem

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}(t_n) | s, \mathbf{y})$$

$$\rho(t = s, \mathbf{x}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

- 2) The following equality holds

$$\langle \rho | \Psi \rangle (t = s) = \langle \rho | \Psi \rangle (t = t_f)$$

Time Invariant Inner Product

- Equating the inner product at time s and t_f

$$\langle \rho | \Psi \rangle (t = s) = \langle \rho | \Psi \rangle (t = t_f)$$

$$\int \rho(s, \mathbf{x}_0) \Psi(s, \mathbf{x}_0) d\mathbf{x}_0 = \int \rho(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) \Psi(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) d\mathbf{x}_N$$

using the initial condition for ρ

$$\int \delta(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{y}) \Psi(s, \mathbf{x}_0) d\mathbf{x}_0 = \int \rho(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) \Psi(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) d\mathbf{x}_N$$

$$\Psi(s, \mathbf{y}) = \int \rho(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) \Psi(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) d\mathbf{x}_N$$

Time Invariant Inner Product (cnt)

using the terminal condition for Ψ

$$\Psi(s, \mathbf{y}) = \int \rho(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) \Psi(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) d\mathbf{x}_N$$

$$\Psi(s, \mathbf{y}) = \int \rho(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \Phi(\mathbf{x}_N)} d\mathbf{x}_N$$

We know the PDF of a single state

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(t_f, \mathbf{x}_N) &= \int \rho(\tau | s, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{x}(t_1) \dots d\mathbf{x}(t_{N-1}) \\ &= \int \mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y}) e^{-\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{\lambda} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))} d\mathbf{x}(t_1) \dots d\mathbf{x}(t_{N-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Path Integral

$$\Psi(s, \mathbf{y}) = \int \mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y}) e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}_N) + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt \right)} d\mathbf{x}(t_1) \dots d\mathbf{x}(t_{N-1}) d\mathbf{x}_N$$

Equivalently

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(s, \mathbf{y}) &= \mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_N)) + \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} q(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i)) dt \right)} \right\} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Samples can be generated by

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{w}, \quad d\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma dt), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

Closer look at Path Integral formula

- For calculating the Desirability function at each point

$$\Psi(s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}$$

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{w}, \quad d\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma dt), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

- 1) Forward simulate the uncontrolled system from (s, \mathbf{y}) up to t_f
- 2) Integrate the cost over the generated path

Path Integral: Optimal Control

- Directly calculating the optimal control

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) &= -\mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{g}^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \nabla_{\mathbf{y}} V^*(s, \mathbf{y}) \\ &= \lambda \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{g}^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{y}} \Psi(s, \mathbf{y})}{\Psi(s, \mathbf{y})}\end{aligned}$$

After a tedious calculation

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \lim_{\Delta s \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \int_s^{s+\Delta s} d\mathbf{w} \, e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}{\Delta s \mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}$$

$$d\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x})dt + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{w}, \quad d\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma dt), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

Path Integral: Optimal Control

- Using the white noise formulation $\varepsilon = \frac{d\mathbf{w}}{dt}$

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})\varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}$$

Path Integral: issues (1)

- Inefficient sampling

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \varepsilon \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}} \right\}$$

Soft Max

It just has significant value for near optimal solution

What are the chances to hit the optimal solution by a random walk?

Importance Sampling

Path Integral: issues (2)

- Point-wise estimation of the optimal controls

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \varepsilon \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}} \right\}$$

The optimal control is estimated independently for each point

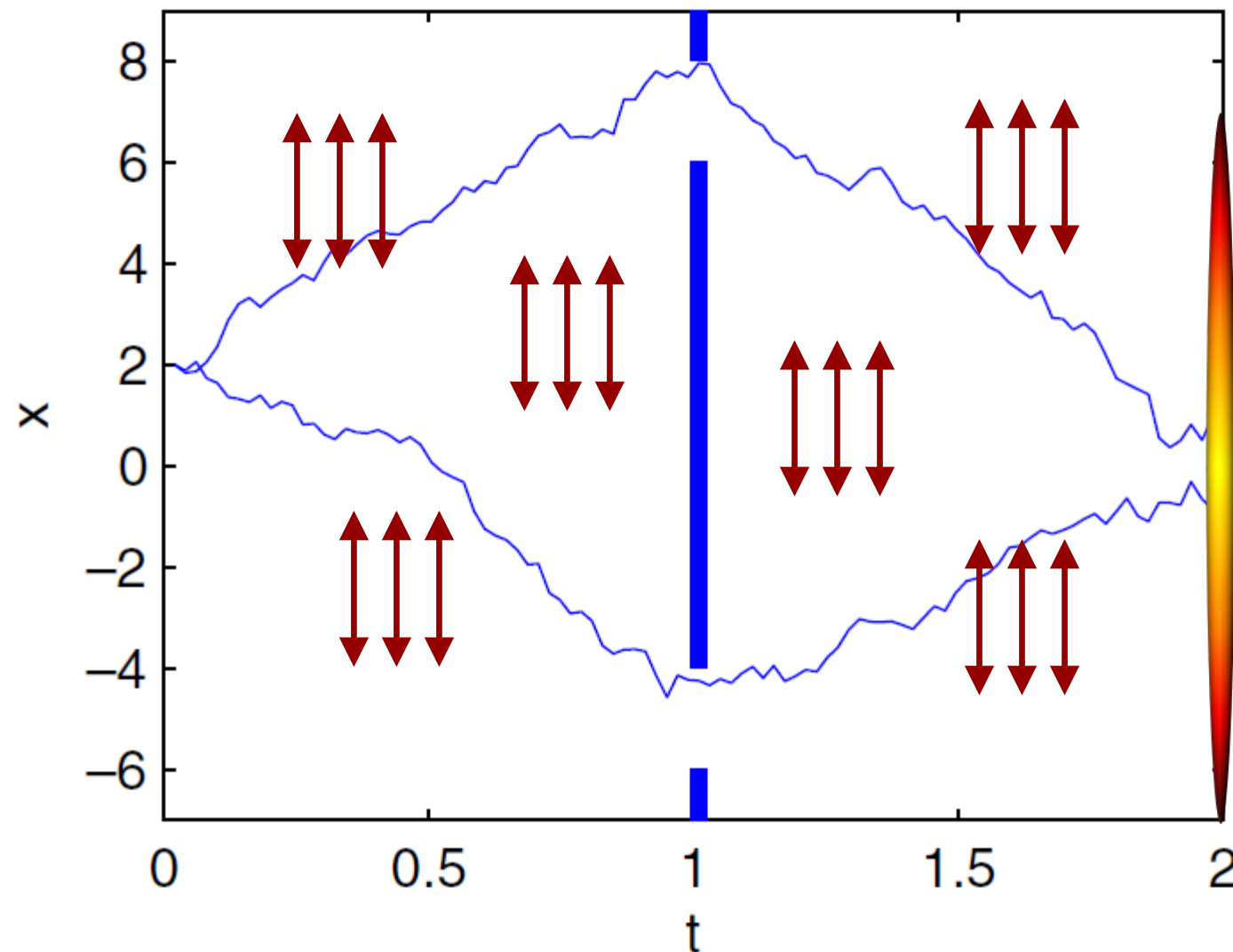
Does the optimal control change drastically from one point to the other?

Function Approximation



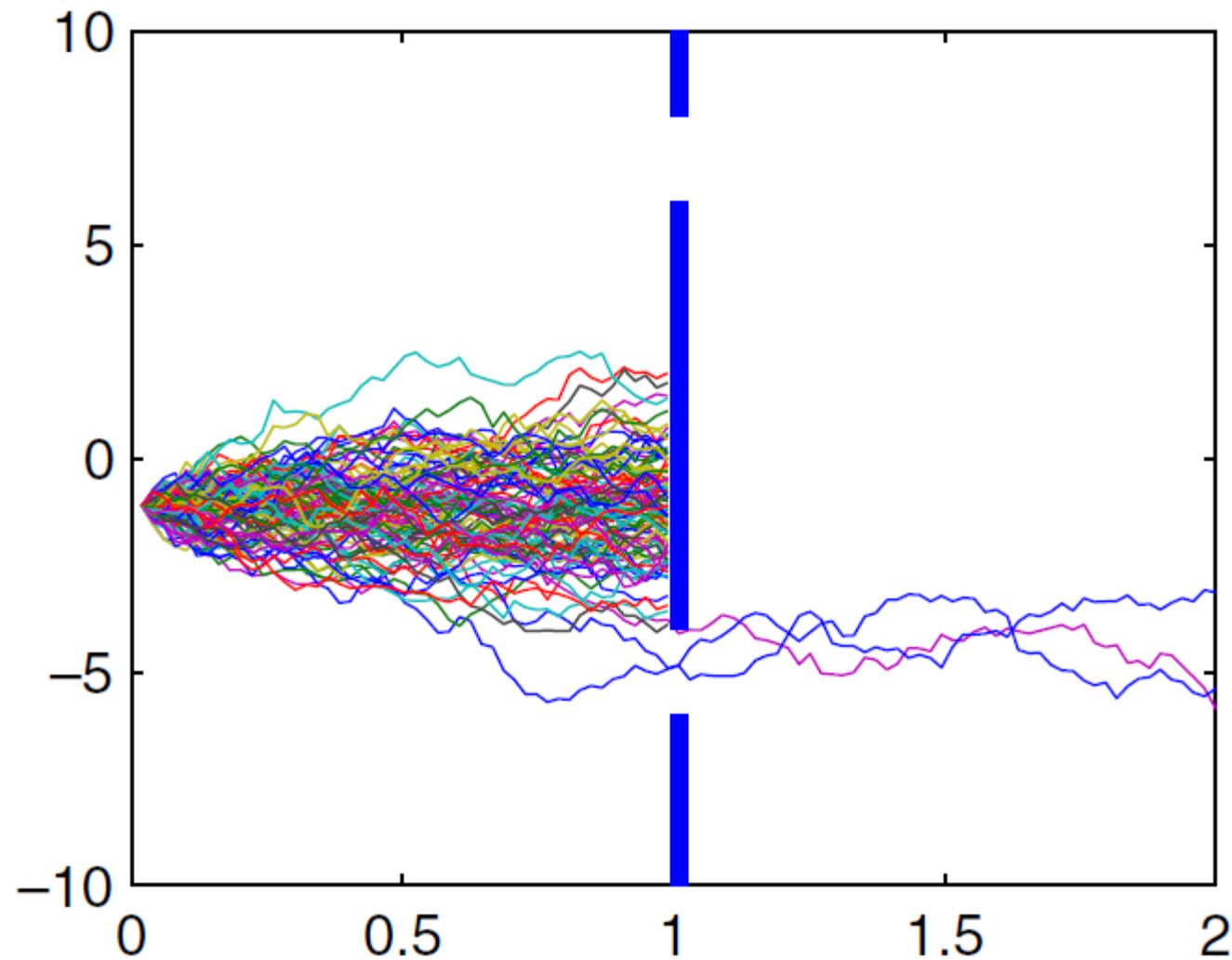
Importance Sampling: Example

Double-slit problem



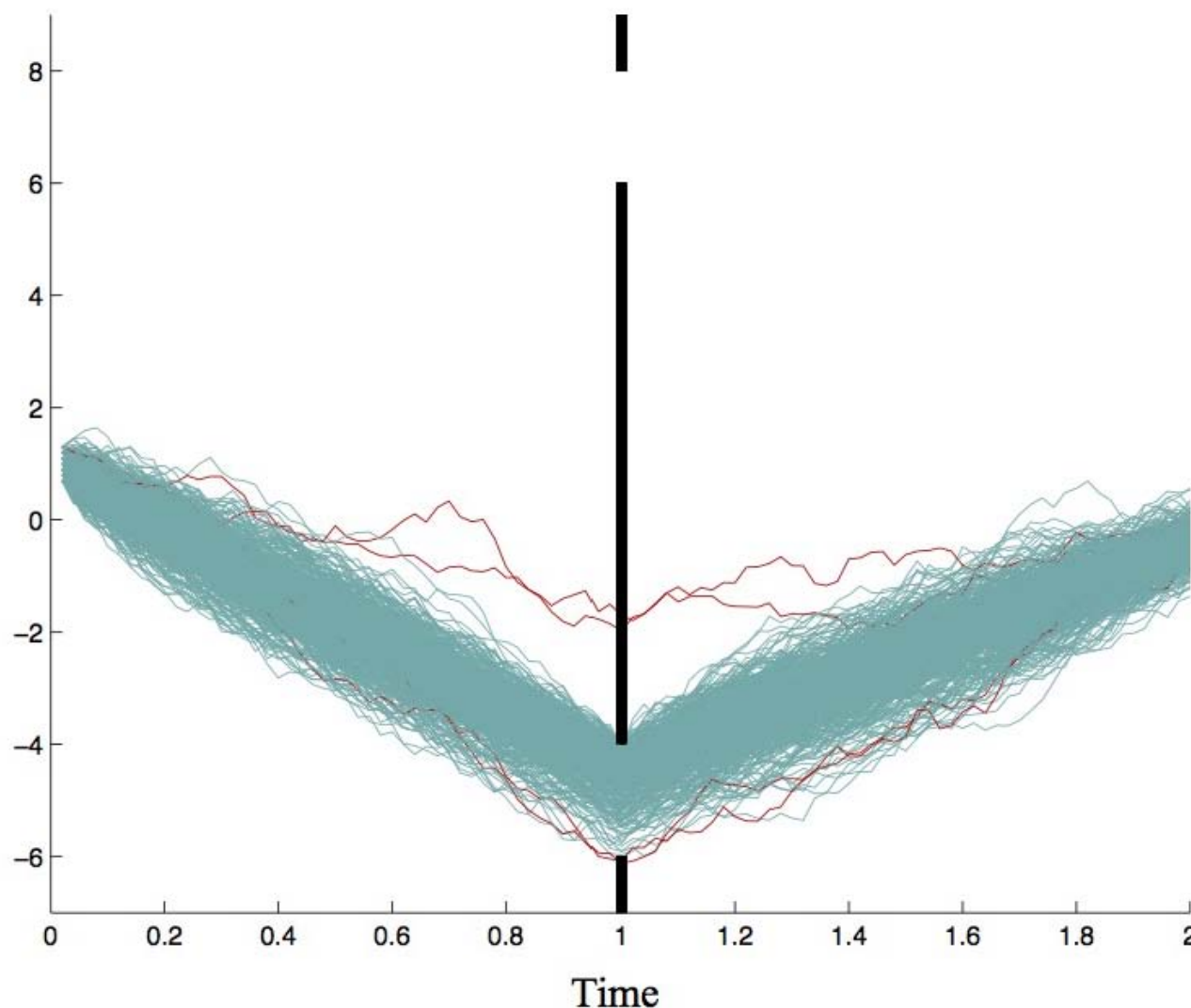
Importance Sampling: Example (cnt)

The original Path Integral sampling approach:



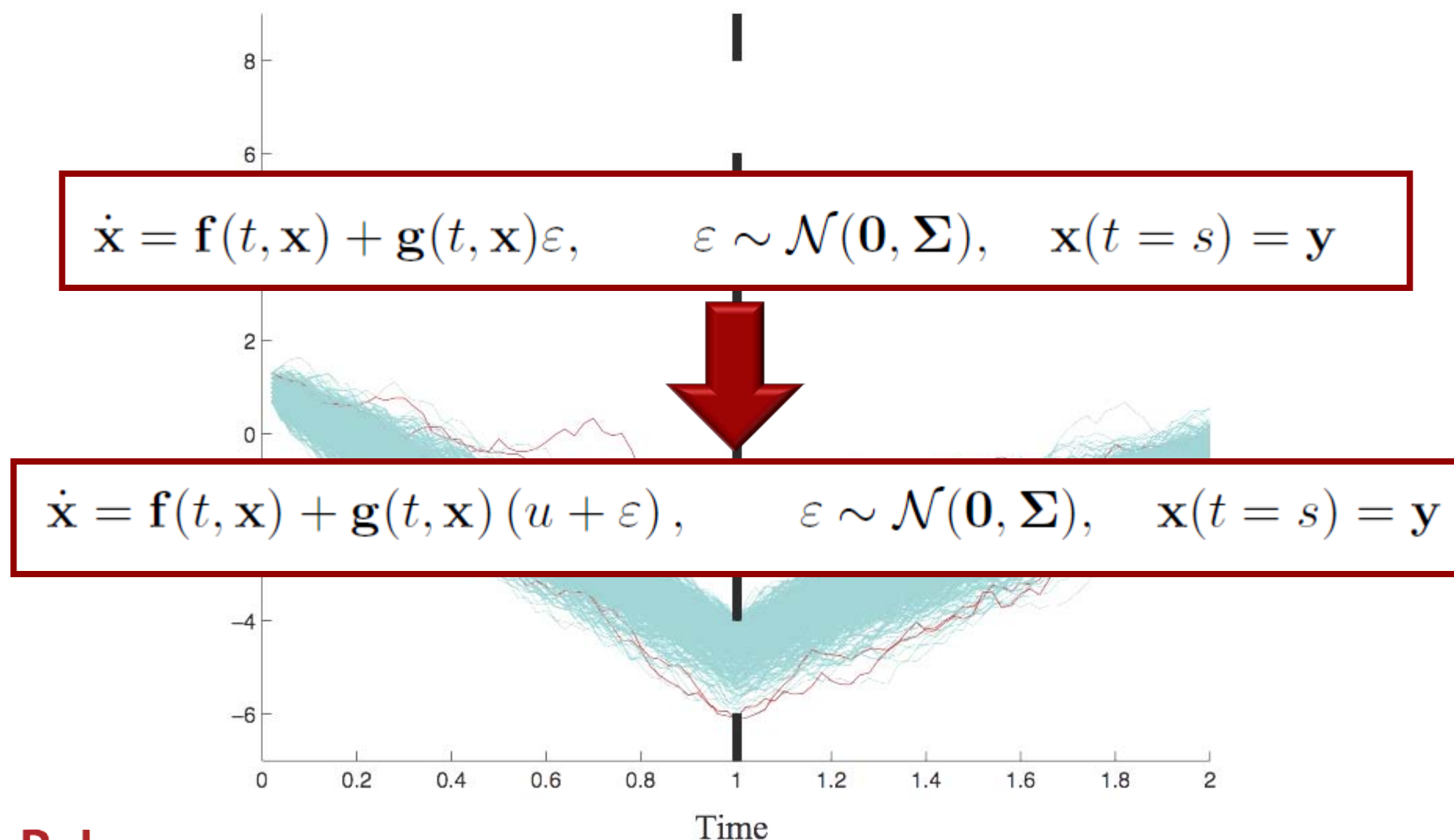
Importance Sampling: Example (cnt)

We would have a better sampling efficiency, if we could have biased the sampling towards each of the slits!



Importance Sampling: Example (cnt)

We would have a better sampling efficiency, if we could have biased the sampling towards each of the slits!



Importance Sampling: Motivations

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x}) (u + \varepsilon), \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

- 1) We have an initial guess about the optimal solution
- 2) We want to improve the controller incrementally

Importance Sampling: Introduction

Assume the following expectation problem where x is a random variable with probability distribution $p(x)$ and $f(x)$ is an arbitrary deterministic function.

$$E_p [f(x)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) p(x) dx$$

We will assume that we have another random variable named y with the probability distribution $q(y)$ and Lets assume that calculating the expectation of an arbitrary function for this random variable is less costly than the previous one.

$$E_p [f(x)] = E_q [w(y) f(y)], \quad w(y) = \frac{p(y)}{q(y)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_q [w(y) f(y)] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} w(y) f(y) q(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{p(y)}{q(y)} f(y) \cancel{q(y)} dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(y) f(y) dy = E_p [f(x)] \end{aligned}$$

The key is to multiply by the importance weight!

Path Integral: Importance Sampling

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}$$

~~$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})\varepsilon, \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$~~

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x})(u + \varepsilon), \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

The importance weight: $\frac{\mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})}{\mathbb{P}_c(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})}$

Path Integral: Importance Sampling

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})}{\mathbb{P}_c(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})} = e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w}}$$

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w} \right)} \right\}$$

Path Integral: Importance Sampling

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y})}{\mathbb{P}_c(\tau \mid s, \mathbf{y})} = e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w}}$$

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_{uc}} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) dt \right)} \right\}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ (\mathbf{u} + \varepsilon) e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w} \right)} \right\}$$

Path Integral: Importance Sampling

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ (\mathbf{u} + \varepsilon) e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w} \right)} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_{t_0}^{t_f} q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w} \right)} \right\}}$$

$$R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y}) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_s^{t_f} \left(q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} \right) dt + \int_s^{t_f} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w}$$

It is actually the Return, we have previously used in the RL section!

$$J = E[R(\tau; t_0, \mathbf{x}_0)]$$

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{u}(s, \mathbf{y}) + \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}$$

Path Integral: IS proof

The means
are different!

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})}{\mathbb{P}_c(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})} = \frac{\prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}(t_i) + \mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))dt, \mathbf{\Xi}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))dt\right)}{\prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}(t_i) + \mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))dt + \mathbf{g}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))\mathbf{u}(t_i)dt, \mathbf{\Xi}(t_i, \mathbf{x}(t_i))dt\right)}$$

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})}{\mathbb{P}_c(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})} = \prod_{i=0}^{N-1} \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{f}_i dt\|_{\mathbf{\Xi}_i dt}^2\right)}{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{f}_i dt - \mathbf{g}_i \mathbf{u}_i dt\|_{\mathbf{\Xi}_i dt}^2\right)}$$

$$\frac{\mathbb{P}_{uc}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})}{\mathbb{P}_c(\tau | s, \mathbf{y})} = e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} dt + \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w}}$$

Path Integral: IS summery

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{u}(s, \mathbf{y}) + \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}$$

Optimal Control

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x}) (u + \varepsilon), \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

Sampling System

$$R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y}) = \Phi(\mathbf{x}(t_f)) + \int_s^{t_f} \left(q(t, \mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{u} \right) dt + \int_s^{t_f} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{R} d\mathbf{w}$$

Return: integral of the cost over path

Function Approximation

Motivation

Function Approximation (cnt)

- Approximating the optimal control with a **Linear Model** (linear w.r.t. to the parameters)

$$u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s, \mathbf{y})\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* + \text{error}$$

Basis Function:
nonlinear function of time
and state

Error:
approximation error

Parameter Vector:
approximation parameter

Function Approximation (cnt)

- Approximation needs to have a criterion.

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* &= \operatorname{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_i} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i) \\ &= \operatorname{argmax}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_i} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \|u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) - \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s, \mathbf{y})\boldsymbol{\theta}_i\|_2^2 p(s, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} ds\end{aligned}$$

- Mean Square Error (MSE) criterion

- $\int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} p(s, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} ds = 1$

Path Integral: Function Approximation

We have two optimization problems:

- 1) The Optimal Control problem with the solution

$$\mathbf{u}^*(s, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{u}(s, \mathbf{y}) + \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}$$

- 2) The Function Approximation problem

$$\theta_i^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta_i} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \|u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) - \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_i\|_2^2 p(s, \mathbf{y}) dy ds$$

Path Integral: Function Approximation (cnt)

We can define these optimization problems as a single optimization problem.

$$u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) \approx \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_i^*$$

**Approximated
Optimal Control**

$$\theta_i^* = \theta_{i,c} + \operatorname{argmin}_{\Delta \theta_i} \int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left\| \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \Delta \theta_i - \varepsilon \right\|_2^2 \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds$$

Linear Regression

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{g}(t, \mathbf{x}) (u + \varepsilon), \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma), \quad \mathbf{x}(t = s) = \mathbf{y}$$

$$u_i(s, \mathbf{y}) \approx \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_{i,c}$$

**Sampling
System**

Path Integral: FA proof

$$\theta_i^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta_i} \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \|u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) - \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_i\|_2^2 p(s, \mathbf{y}) dy ds$$

Function Approximation
problem

$$\frac{\partial L(\theta_i^*)}{\partial \theta_i} = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \left(u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) - \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_i^* \right) \Upsilon_i(s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) dy ds = 0$$

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left(u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) - \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_i^* \right) \Upsilon_i(s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) dy ds = 0$$

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_f} \int_{\Omega} \mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda} R(\tau; s, \mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left(u_i^*(s, \mathbf{y}) - \Upsilon_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \theta_i^* \right) \Upsilon_i(s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) \right\} dy ds = 0$$

Path Integral: FA proof (cnt)

$$\int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left(u_i^*(s,\mathbf{y}) - \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s,\mathbf{y})\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* \right) \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i(s,\mathbf{y}) \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s,\mathbf{y}) p(s,\mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds = 0$$

$$\int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left(\underbrace{u_i^* - u_i - \varepsilon + u_i + \varepsilon}_{\text{red bracket}} - \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* \right) \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i(s,\mathbf{y}) \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s,\mathbf{y}) p(s,\mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds = 0$$

For the first three terms.

**Getting the integral
w.r.t. trajectory**

$$\int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left(u_i^*(s,\mathbf{y}) - u_i(s,\mathbf{y}) - \varepsilon \right) \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i(s,\mathbf{y}) \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s,\mathbf{y}) p(s,\mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds =$$

$$\int \left(u_i^*(s,\mathbf{y}) - u_i(s,\mathbf{y}) - \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ \varepsilon e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \right) \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i(s,\mathbf{y}) \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s,\mathbf{y}) p(s,\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} ds = 0$$

Path Integral: FA proof (cnt)

$$\int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left(u_i(s, \mathbf{y}) + \varepsilon - \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* \right) \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i(s, \mathbf{y}) \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds = 0$$

It is equivalent to the following optimization

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_i} \int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left\| \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \boldsymbol{\theta}_i - u_i(s, \mathbf{y}) - \varepsilon \right\|_2^2 \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds$$

If we use the same function approximation for $u_i(s, \mathbf{y}) \approx \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \boldsymbol{\theta}_{i,c}$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^* = \boldsymbol{\theta}_{i,c} + \operatorname{argmin}_{\Delta \boldsymbol{\theta}_i} \int \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})}}{\mathbb{E}_{\tau_c} \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda}R(\tau;s,\mathbf{y})} \right\}} \left\| \boldsymbol{\Upsilon}_i^T(s, \mathbf{y}) \Delta \boldsymbol{\theta}_i - \varepsilon \right\|_2^2 \mathbb{P}_{\tau_c}(\tau | s, \mathbf{y}) p(s, \mathbf{y}) d\tau d\mathbf{y} ds$$

Thanks!

