

# Distributed Gaussian Particle Filtering Using Likelihood Consensus

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- A second stage of consensus algorithms can be used to significantly reduce the complexity
- Comparison to other consensus-based distributed particle filters:
  - in [Farahmand et al. 2010], no approximations are needed but the communication requirements can be much higher
  - in [Gu et al. 2008], only local likelihood functions are used, resulting in a performance degradation

# Outline

- Distributed estimation in wireless sensor networks
- Distributed Gaussian particle filtering
- Likelihood consensus
- Distributed Gaussian particle filtering with reduced complexity
- Target tracking example and simulation results

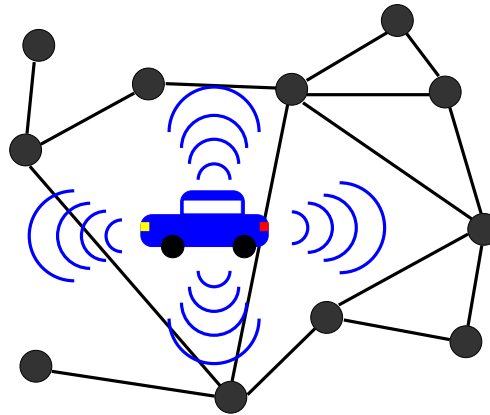
# Distributed estimation

- We consider a **wireless sensor network** composed of  $K$  sensor nodes jointly estimating a time-varying  $M$ -dimensional state vector  $\mathbf{x}_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$
- Each sensor  $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  obtains a measurement  $\mathbf{z}_{n,k}$



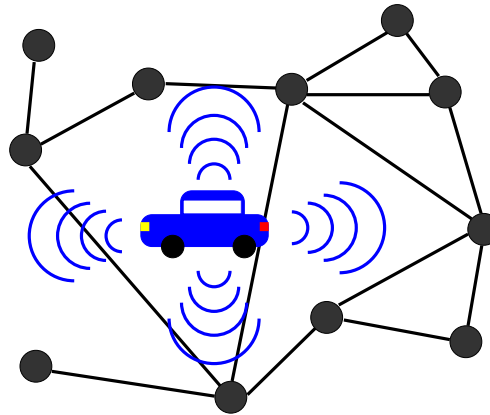
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- **Goals:**
  - each sensor node obtains a global state estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{n,k}$  based on the measurements of **all sensors** (important for sensor-actuator/robotic networks)
  - only **local processing** and **short-distance communications** are used
  - **no fusion center**, no routing of measurements through the network

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- A **nonlinear, non-Gaussian state-space model** with independent additive Gaussian measurement noises is considered
- The system is described by:
  - state-transition probability density function (pdf)  $f(\mathbf{x}_n|\mathbf{x}_{n-1})$
  - **joint likelihood function (JLF)**  $f(\mathbf{z}_n|\mathbf{x}_n)$ , where  $\mathbf{z}_n = (\mathbf{z}_{n,1}^T \cdots \mathbf{z}_{n,K}^T)^T$

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- Optimal Bayesian estimation amounts to calculation of the **posterior pdf**  $f(\mathbf{x}_n|\mathbf{z}_{1:n})$ , where  $\mathbf{z}_{1:n} = (\mathbf{z}_1^T \cdots \mathbf{z}_n^T)^T$
- Sequential estimation is enabled by the recursive posterior update

$$f(\mathbf{x}_n|\mathbf{z}_{1:n}) \propto \underbrace{f(\mathbf{z}_n|\mathbf{x}_n)}_{\text{JLF}} \int_{\mathbf{x}_{n-1}} f(\mathbf{x}_n|\mathbf{x}_{n-1}) f(\mathbf{x}_{n-1}|\mathbf{z}_{1:n-1}) d\mathbf{x}_{n-1}$$

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- A computationally feasible approximation is provided by the particle filtering (sequential Monte Carlo) approach
- Gaussian particle filtering [Kotecha & Djurić 2003]:
  - the posterior  $f(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{z}_{1:n})$  is approximated by a Gaussian pdf  $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_n, \mathbf{C}_n)$
  - the mean  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_n$  and covariance  $\mathbf{C}_n$  of the Gaussian approximation are obtained from a set of  $J$  weighted samples/particles  $\{\mathbf{x}_n^{(j)}, w_n^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^J$



# Distributed Gaussian particle filtering – 1

- We propose a **distributed** Gaussian particle filter (DGPF)
- Each sensor uses a **local** Gaussian particle filter to sequentially track the mean  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{n,k}$  and covariance  $\mathbf{C}_{n,k}$  of a **local** Gaussian approximation  $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{n,k}, \mathbf{C}_{n,k})$  to the **global** posterior  $f(\mathbf{x}_n | \mathbf{z}_{1:n})$

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- The measurement update at each sensor uses the (global) JLF. This ensures that global estimates are obtained at each sensor
- The JLF is provided to each sensor in a distributed way using **likelihood consensus** as proposed in [Hlinka et al. 2010]:
  - the consensus algorithms employed by the likelihood consensus scheme require only **local communications** and operate without complex routing protocols
  - no measurements or particles need to be exchanged between the sensors

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# Joint likelihood function

- Sensor  $k$  acquires a **measurement vector**  $\mathbf{z}_{n,k}$  according to

$$\mathbf{z}_{n,k} = \mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n) + \mathbf{v}_{n,k},$$

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- The **JLF** is obtained as

$$f(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) = \prod_{k=1}^K f(\mathbf{z}_{n,k} | \mathbf{x}_n) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} S_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)\right),$$

with

$$S_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n) \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^K [\mathbf{z}_{n,k} - \mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)]^T \mathbf{Q}_{n,k}^{-1} [\mathbf{z}_{n,k} - \mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)]$$

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- Direct calculation of  $S_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)$  requires that each sensor knows the measurements  $\mathbf{z}_{n,k}$  and measurement functions  $\mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\cdot)$  of **all** other sensors
- However, an approximation of  $S_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)$  can be calculated at each sensor by means of consensus algorithms

# Approximation of the measurement function

- We approximate the measurement function of sensor  $k$ ,  $\mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)$ , by a multivariate vector-valued polynomial of degree  $R$ :

$$\mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n) \approx \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n) \triangleq \sum_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{0}}^R \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{r},n,k} p_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x}_n),$$

where  $\mathbf{r} \triangleq (r_1, \dots, r_M)$ ,  $p_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x}_n) \triangleq x_{n,1}^{r_1} x_{n,2}^{r_2} \dots x_{n,M}^{r_M}$ , and  $\sum_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{0}}^R$  is short for  $\sum_{r_1=0}^R \dots \sum_{r_M=0}^R$  with  $\sum_{m=1}^M r_m \leq R$



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- The coefficients  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{r},n,k}$  of the polynomial approximation can be obtained using least squares polynomial fitting
- The polynomial approximation  $\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)$  is calculated locally at each sensor

# Approximation of the joint likelihood function

- Substituting  $\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)$  for  $\mathbf{h}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)$  yields the approximation

$$S_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n) \approx \tilde{S}_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n) \triangleq \sum_{k=1}^K [\mathbf{z}_{n,k} - \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)]^T \mathbf{Q}_{n,k}^{-1} [\mathbf{z}_{n,k} - \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)]$$

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- $\tilde{S}_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)$  can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S}_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n) &= \sum_{k=1}^K \left[ \sum_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{0}}^{2R} \beta_{\mathbf{r},n,k}(\mathbf{z}_{n,k}) p_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x}_n) \right] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{0}}^{2R} T_{\mathbf{r},n}(\mathbf{z}_n) p_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x}_n). \end{aligned}$$

This is a **polynomial** in  $\mathbf{x}_n$ , of degree  $2R$ , with coefficients

$$T_{\mathbf{r},n}(\mathbf{z}_n) = \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_{\mathbf{r},n,k}(\mathbf{z}_{n,k})$$

# Likelihood consensus

- The coefficients  $T_{\mathbf{r},n}(\mathbf{z}_n)$  can be viewed as a **sufficient statistic** describing  $\tilde{S}_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)$  and, in turn, the **approximate JLF**

$$\tilde{f}(\mathbf{z}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \tilde{S}_n(\mathbf{z}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)\right) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{0}}^{2R} T_{\mathbf{r},n}(\mathbf{z}_n) p_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x}_n)\right)$$

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- All  $T_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{z}_n) = \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_{\mathbf{r},k}(\mathbf{z}_{n,k})$  can be computed at each sensor using a distributed, iterative **consensus algorithm** that requires only communications between neighboring sensors:
  - sensor  $k$  computes  $\beta_{\mathbf{r},n,k}(\mathbf{z}_{n,k})$  from locally available data  $(\mathbf{z}_{n,k}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{\mathbf{r},n,k}, \mathbf{Q}_{n,k})$
  - the sum over all sensors  $(\sum_{k=1}^K)$  is computed in a distributed way using a consensus algorithm (requires transmission of partial sums to neighbors)

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# DGPF with reduced complexity

- Each of the  $K$  local Gaussian particle filters uses a reduced number of particles,  $J' = J/K$ , to calculate a partial mean and a partial covariance of the global posterior

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- The partial means and covariances calculated at the individual sensors are combined by means of a **second stage of consensus algorithms**



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- Each of the  $K$  local Gaussian particle filters uses a **reduced number of particles**,  $J' = J/K$ , to calculate a **partial mean** and a **partial covariance** of the global posterior
- The partial means and covariances calculated at the individual sensors are combined by means of a **second stage of consensus algorithms**
- If the second-stage consensus algorithms are sufficiently converged, the performance (estimation accuracy) of the DGPF with reduced complexity is effectively equal to that of the original DGPF

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- Each of the  $K$  local Gaussian particle filters uses a **reduced number of particles**,  $J' = J/K$ , to calculate a **partial mean** and a **partial covariance** of the global posterior
- The partial means and covariances calculated at the individual sensors are combined by means of a **second stage of consensus algorithms**
- If the second-stage consensus algorithms are sufficiently converged, the performance (estimation accuracy) of the DGPF with reduced complexity is effectively equal to that of the original DGPF
- The **computational complexity is substantially reduced** at the cost of some increase in local communications

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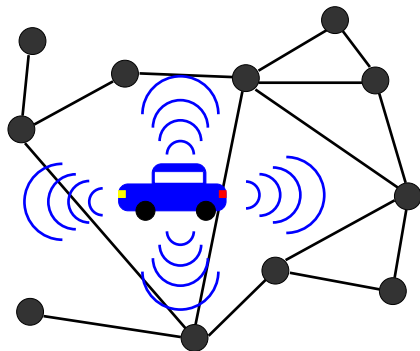
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# Application to target tracking

- The state  $\mathbf{x}_n = (x_n \ y_n \ \dot{x}_n \ \dot{y}_n)^T$  represents the 2D position and 2D velocity of a **target** in the  $x$ - $y$  plane at time  $n$
- The state evolves according to the state-transition equation  $\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{x}_{n-1} + \mathbf{u}_n$ , where  $\mathbf{u}_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_u)$

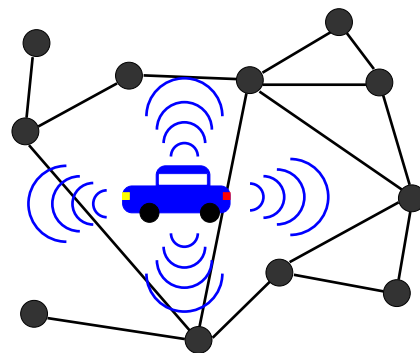
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- The state  $\mathbf{x}_n = (x_n \ y_n \ \dot{x}_n \ \dot{y}_n)^T$  represents the 2D position and 2D velocity of a **target** in the  $x$ - $y$  plane at time  $n$
- The state evolves according to the state-transition equation  $\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{x}_{n-1} + \mathbf{u}_n$ , where  $\mathbf{u}_n \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}_u)$
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- Sensor measurement model:

$$z_{n,k} = h_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n) + v_{n,k} = \frac{A}{\|(x_n \ y_n)^T - \boldsymbol{\xi}_{n,k}\|} + v_{n,k},$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\xi}_{n,k}$  is the position of sensor  $k$  at time  $n$  and  $v_{n,k} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_v^2)$

# Simulation settings

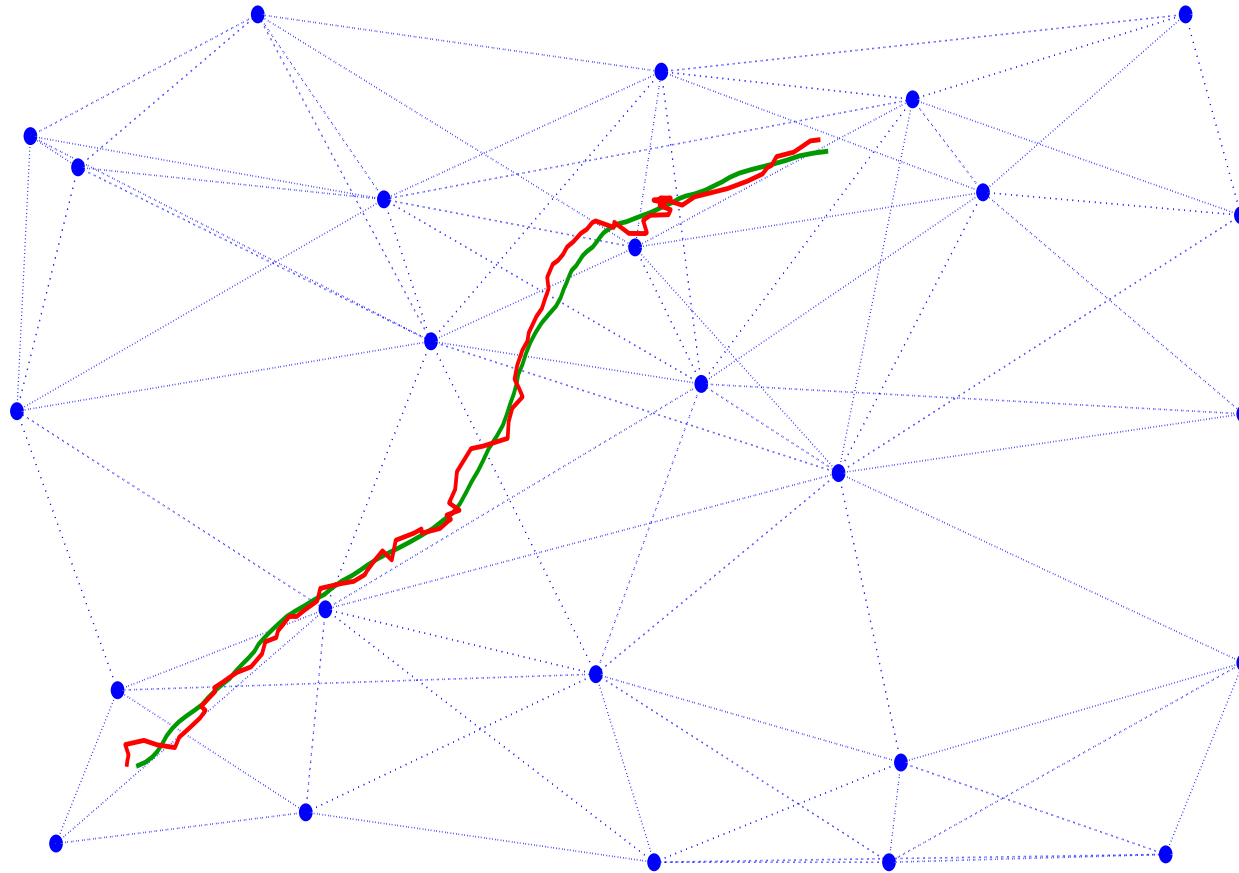
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  - deployed over a field of dimensions  $200\text{m} \times 200\text{m}$
  - consists of 25 acoustic amplitude sensors
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- Particle filtering and likelihood consensus:
  - the proposed distributed Gaussian particle filter (DGPF) and its reduced complexity version (DGPF-R) are compared with a centralized Gaussian particle filter (CGPF)
  - number of particles  $J = 1000$
  - the measurement functions  $h_{n,k}(\mathbf{x}_n)$  are approximated by a polynomial of degree  $R=2 \Rightarrow 14$  consensus algorithms executed in parallel
  - consensus using 8 iterations is compared with exact sum calculation



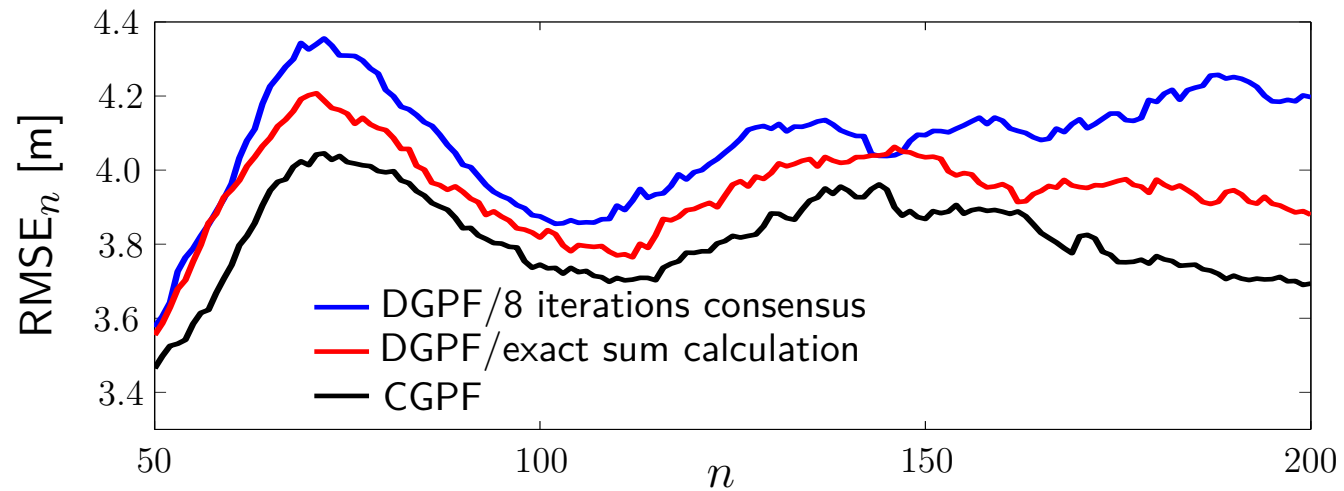
# Simulation results



- Target trajectory generated by means of the state-space model (green) and trajectory estimated by the DGPF (red).

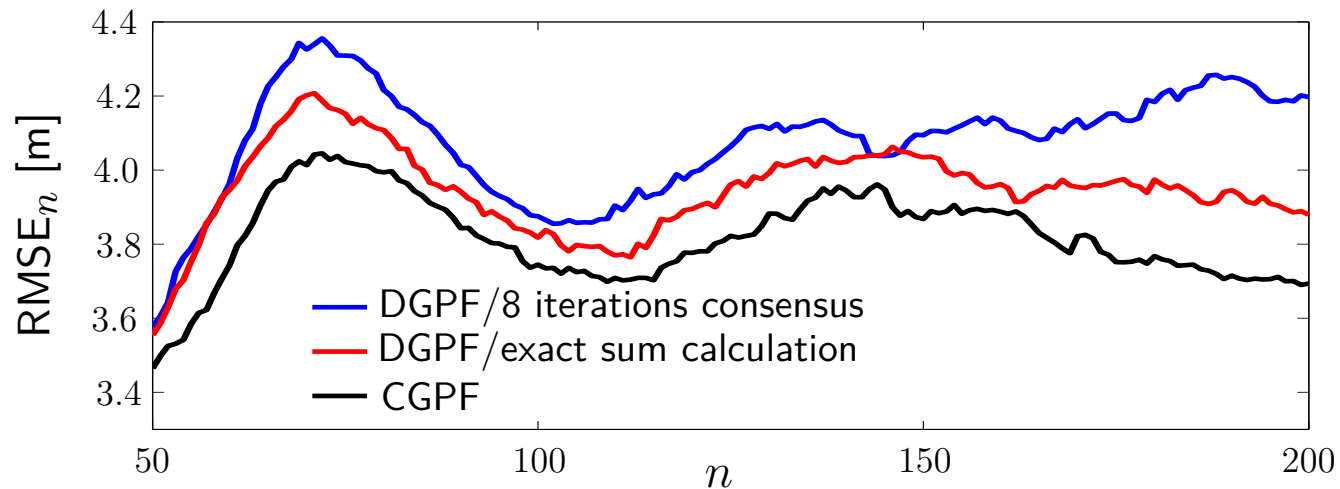
# Simulation results

- Root mean square error (RMSE) versus time  $n$ :

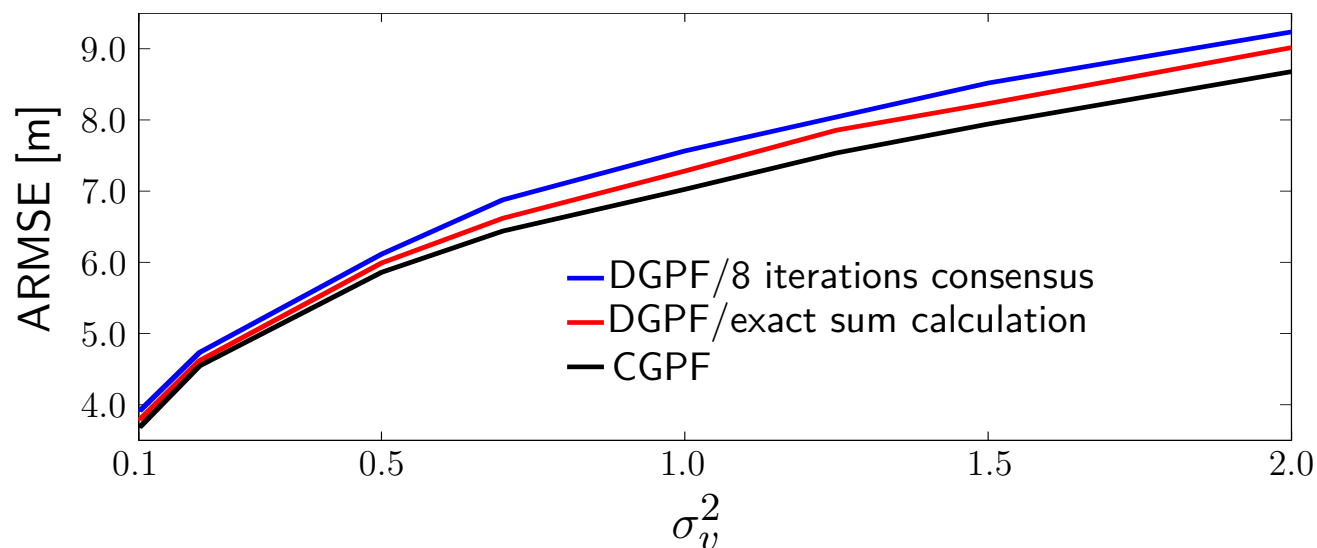


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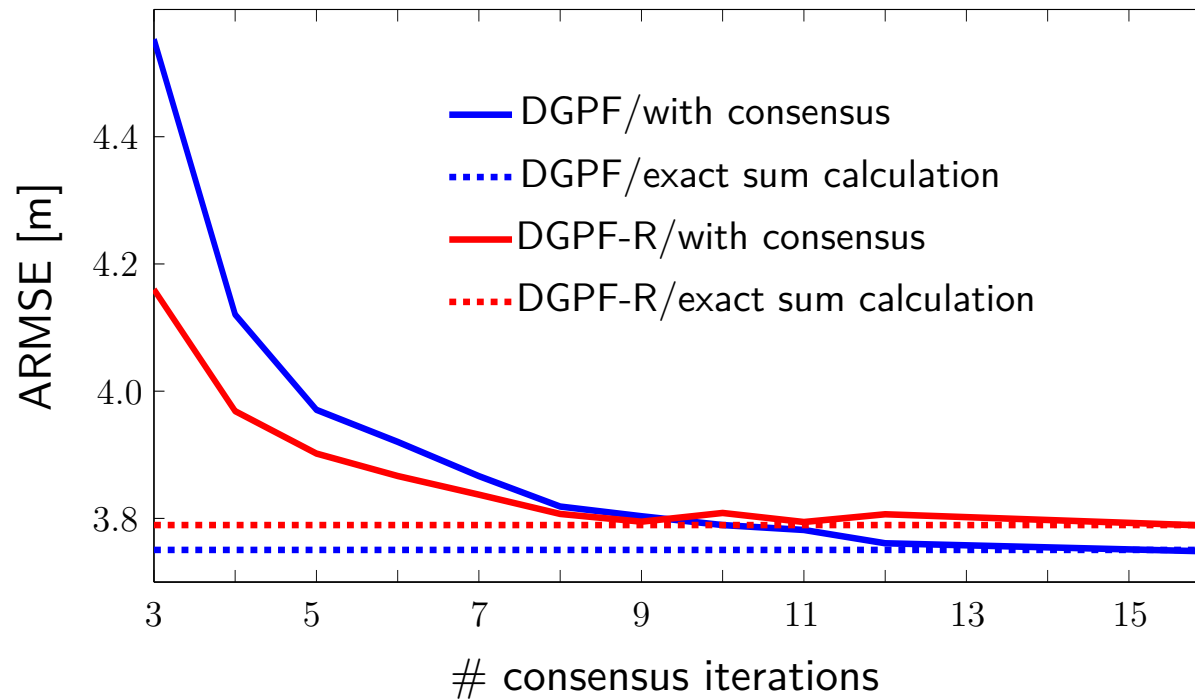


- Average RMSE (ARMSE) versus measurement noise variance:



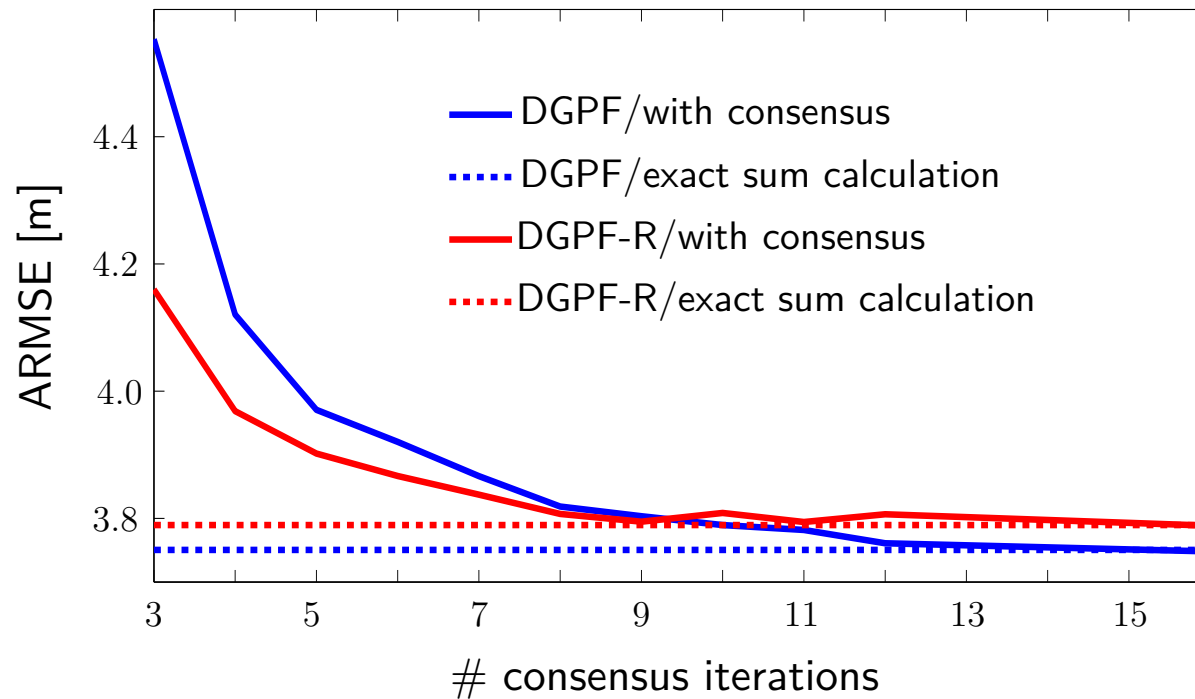
# Simulation results

- ARMSE versus number of consensus iterations:



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- As the number of consensus iterations increases, the performance of the DGPF approaches the performance of a DGPF with exact sum calculation
- For a small number of consensus iterations, the DGPF-R outperforms the DGPF

# Conclusion

- We proposed a **distributed Gaussian particle filtering** scheme, where each sensor runs a **local** Gaussian particle filter that computes a **global** state estimate reflecting the measurements of **all** sensors
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Thank you