

# **Concentration of measure in nonlinear filters**

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# Nonlinear Filtering Problem

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$$dx = f(x, t)dt + G(x, t) dw$$

$x$  = d-dimensional state vector

$t$  = time

$w(t)$  = process noise vector

$$z(t_k) = h(x(t_k), t_k, v_k)$$

$z(t_k)$  = m-dimensional measurement vector

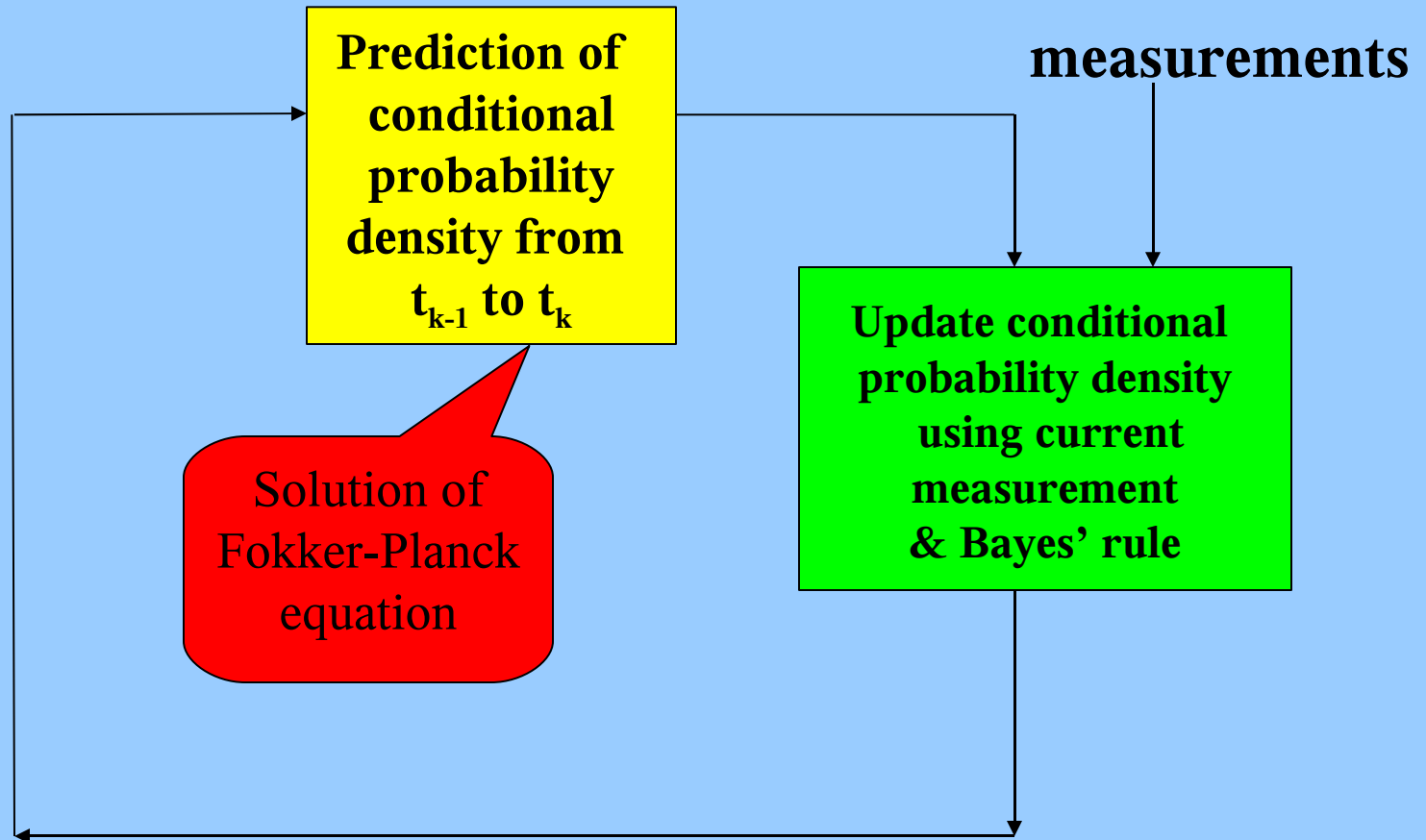
$t_k$  = time of  $k^{\text{th}}$  measurement

$v_k$  = measurement noise vector

$p(x, t | Z_k)$  = probability density of  $x$  at time  $t$  given  $Z_k$

$Z_k$  = set of all measurements up to & including time  $t_k$

# Nonlinear Filter



# Fokker-Planck equation

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$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} f - \text{Tr} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) p + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left( \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} Q \right)$$

$$p = p(x, t)$$

$p$  = probability density of  $x$  at time  $t$

# Bayes' rule

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$$p(x, t_k / Z_k) = p(x, t_k / Z_{k-1}) p(z_k / x, t_k)$$

**Unnormalized probability density of  $x$  at time  $t$  given the set of measurements up to & including time  $t$**

Raytheon

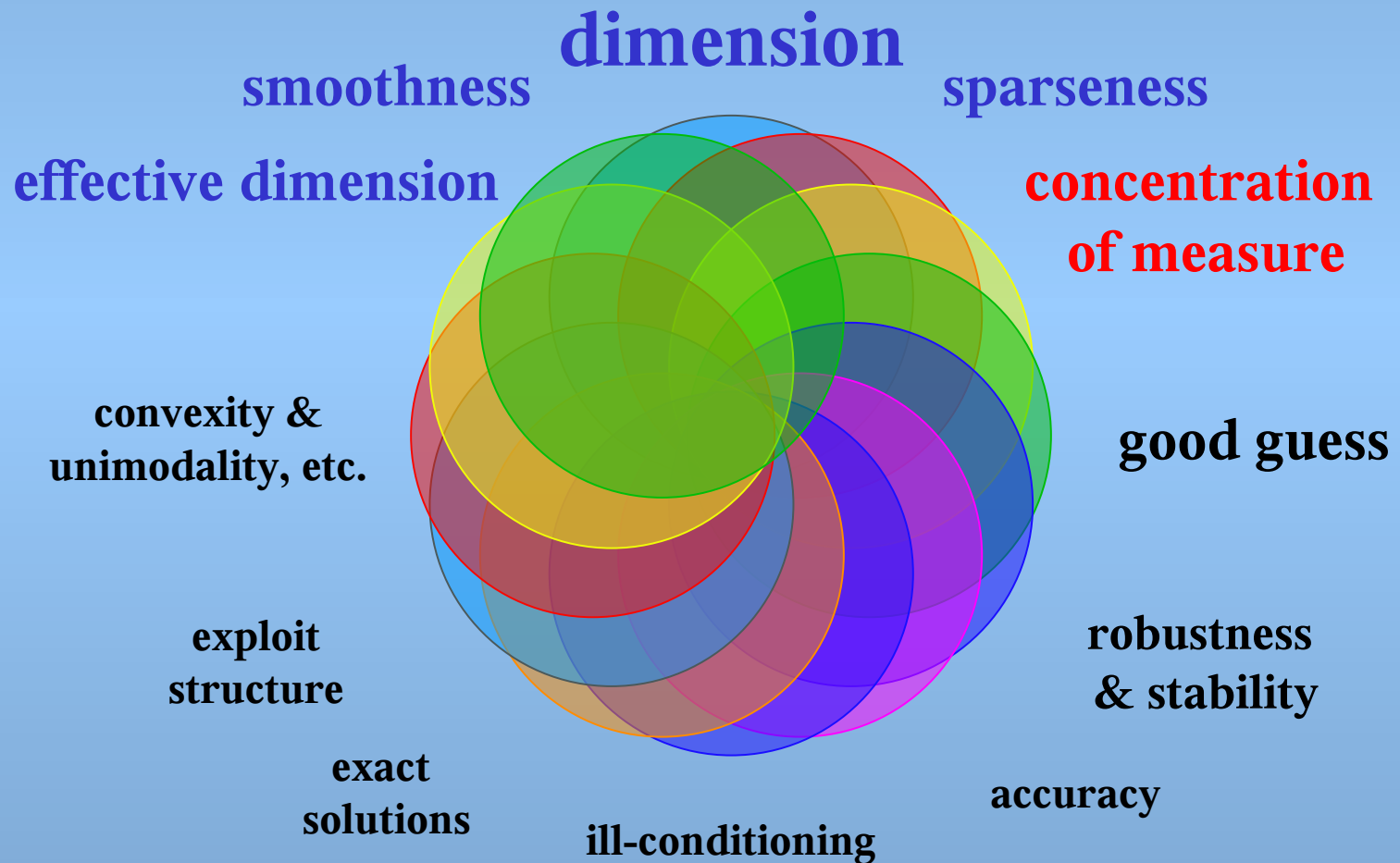
# Gauss

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# Computational Complexity

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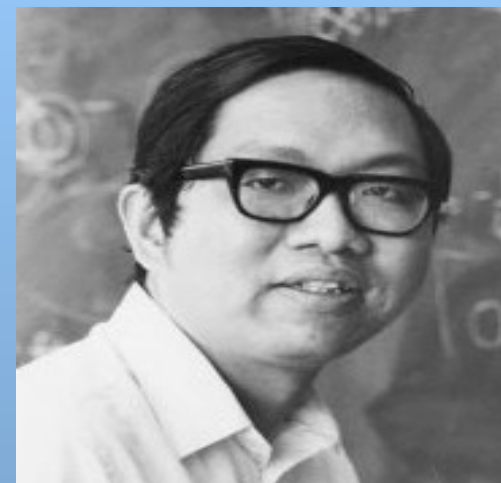
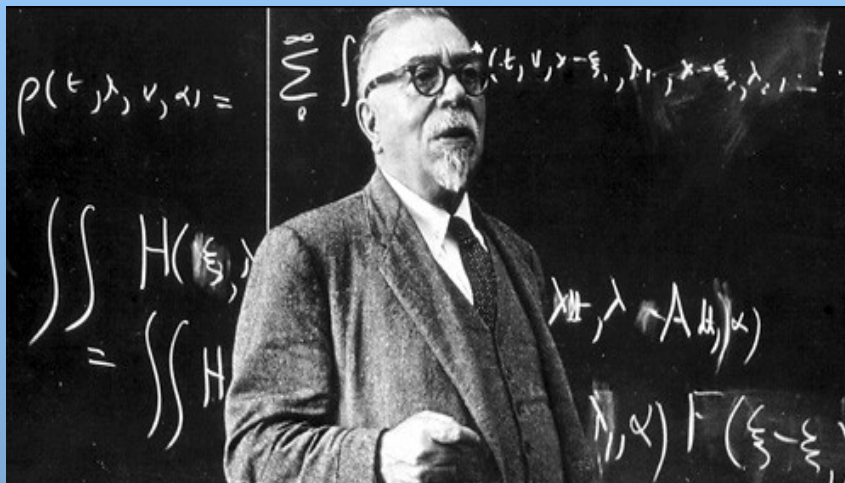
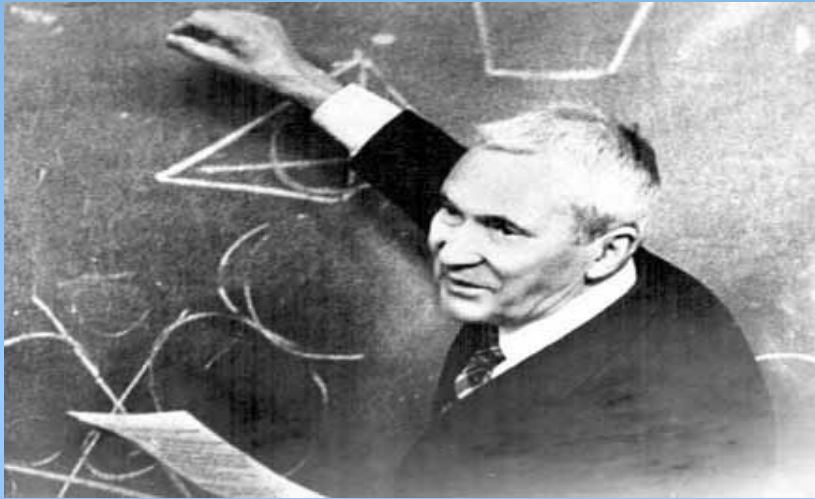


# Raytheon

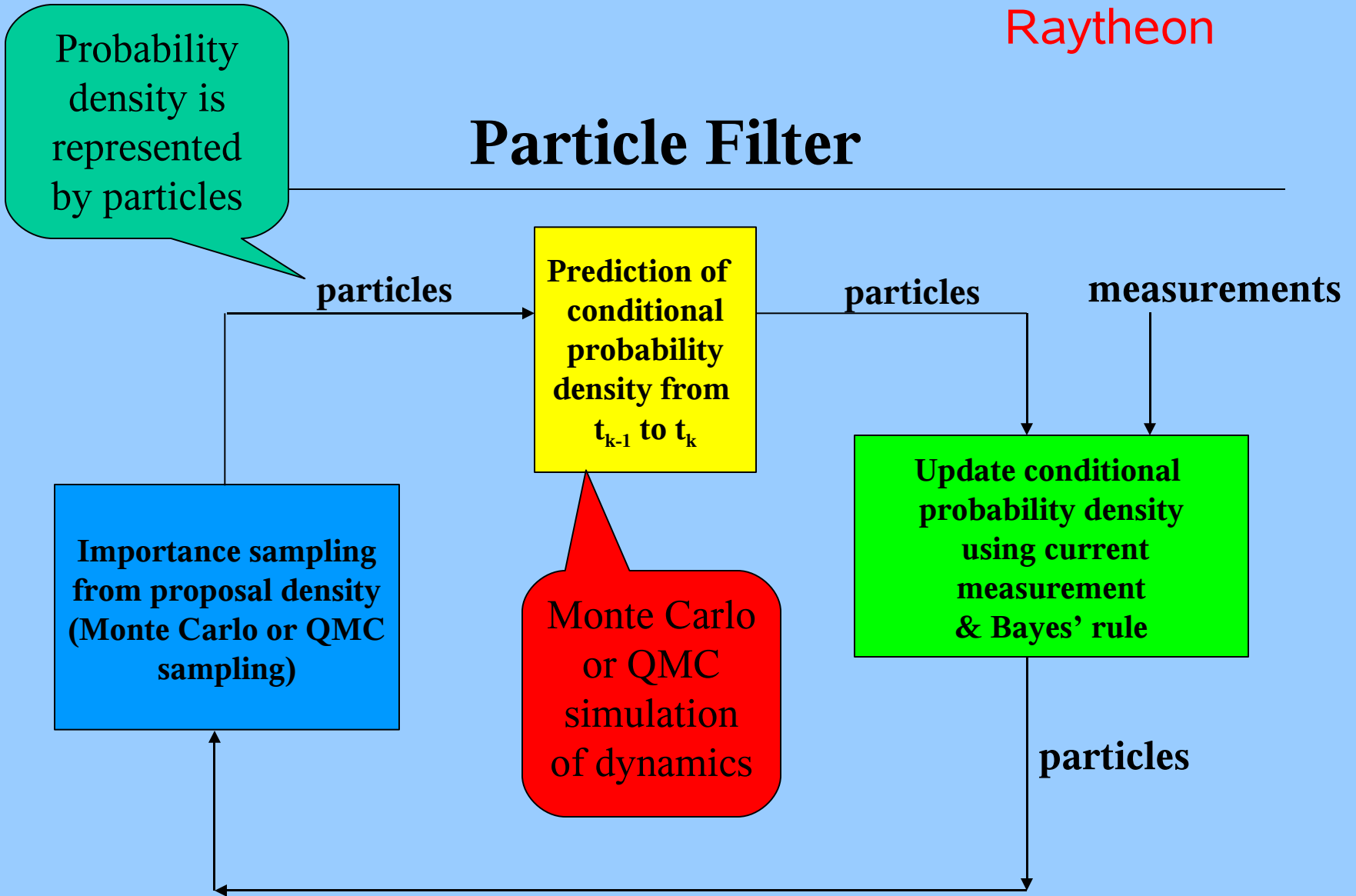
Type of nonlinear filter	Statistics computed	Computational Complexity	Estimation accuracy	Representation of probability density
Extended Kalman filters	Mean vector & covariance matrix	$d^3$	Sometimes good but often highly suboptimal	Mean vector & covariance matrix
Unscented Kalman filters	Mean vector & covariance matrix	$d^3$	Sometimes better than EKF	Mean vector & covariance matrix
Batch least squares	Mean vector & covariance matrix	$d^3$	Sometimes better than EKF	Mean vector & covariance matrix
Numerical solution of Fokker-Planck PDE	Full conditional probability density of state	Curse of dimensionality*	Optimal*	points in state space
Particle filters	Full conditional probability density of state	Curse of dimensionality**	Optimal**	particles
Exact recursive filters (Benes, Daum, Yau, Wonham)	Full conditional probability density of state	Polynomial in $d$	Optimal for special problems	Sufficient statistics

# Mathematicians & filtering

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# Particle Filter



## Assertion About Particle Filters

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“Particle filtering methods **beat the curse of dimensionality** as the rate of convergence is independent of the state dimension.”

Dan Crisan & Arnaud Doucet

(IEEE Trans. Signal Processing March 2002)

# Definition of Dimension Free Error

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$$r = E \left[ (x - \hat{x})^T C^{-1} (x - \hat{x}) \right] / d$$

**in which**

**$x$  = state vector to be estimated**

**$\hat{x}$  = estimate of  $x$**

**$d$  = dimension of  $x$**

**$C$  = covariance matrix for the optimal filter**

**$E(.)$  = expected value of  $(.)$**



## Quote from Prof. Arnaud Doucet's Website (FAQ)

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**QUESTION:** When you say “particle filters beat the curse of dimensionality,” what do you mean?

**ANSWER:** A rather unfortunate expression we've used ourselves to look good.

# Oh's Formula for Monte Carlo errors

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$$\sigma^2 \approx \left\{ \left[ \frac{1+k}{\sqrt{1+2k}} \right] \exp \left[ \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1+2k} \right] \right\}^d / N$$

## Assumptions:

- (3) Gaussian density (zero mean & unit covariance matrix)
- (4) d-dimensional random variable
- (5) Proposal density is also Gaussian with mean  $\varepsilon$  and covariance matrix  $kI$ , but it is not exact for  $k \neq 1$  or  $\varepsilon \neq 0$
- (6)  $N$  = number of Monte Carlo trials

# Variance too small is a disaster!

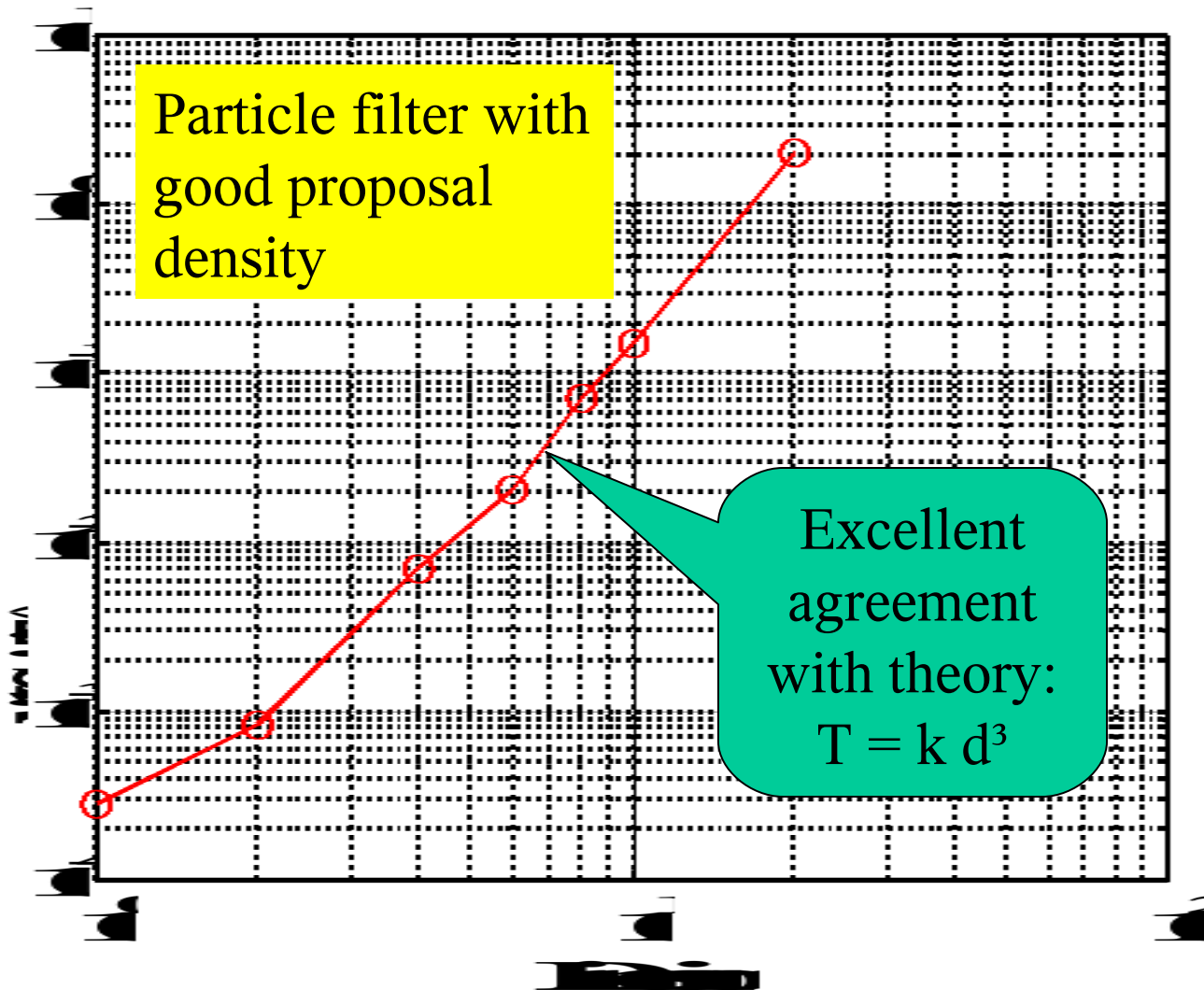
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$$\sigma^2 \approx \left\{ \left( \frac{k^2}{2k-1} \right)^{d/2} - 1 \right\} / N$$

## Assumptions:

- (3) Gaussian density (zero mean & unit covariance matrix)
- (4) d-dimensional random variable
- (5) Proposal density is also Gaussian (zero mean & covariance  $kI$ ), but it is not exact for  $k \neq 1$
- (6)  $N$  = number of Monte Carlo trials
- (7)  $k > 1/2$  (otherwise the error blows up)

# Computation Time vs. Dimension for optimal estimation accuracy ( $r = 1.0$ )



# Simple Back-of-the-Envelope Formula\*

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$$T \approx c \frac{d^3}{(\sigma_x^2 / \sigma_0^2)}$$

\*assumes concentration of measure similar to Gaussian density and good proposal density; it can be derived from Oh's formula for small  $\varepsilon$  and  $k$ ; it can also be derived (more generally & more simply) from the volume of a  $d$ -dimensional ball and Chernoff's bound and the usual Monte Carlo error analysis and Stirling's approximation for  $d$ !

## Multiple Choice Quiz

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**What is the approximate ratio ( $r$ ) of the volume of the unit ball to the volume of the smallest cube that contains it for  $d = 10$  dimensions?**

- (a)  $r = 0.5$**
- (b)  $r = 0.1$**
- (c)  $r = 0.01$**
- (d)  $r = 0.002$**

# Another Multiple Choice Quiz

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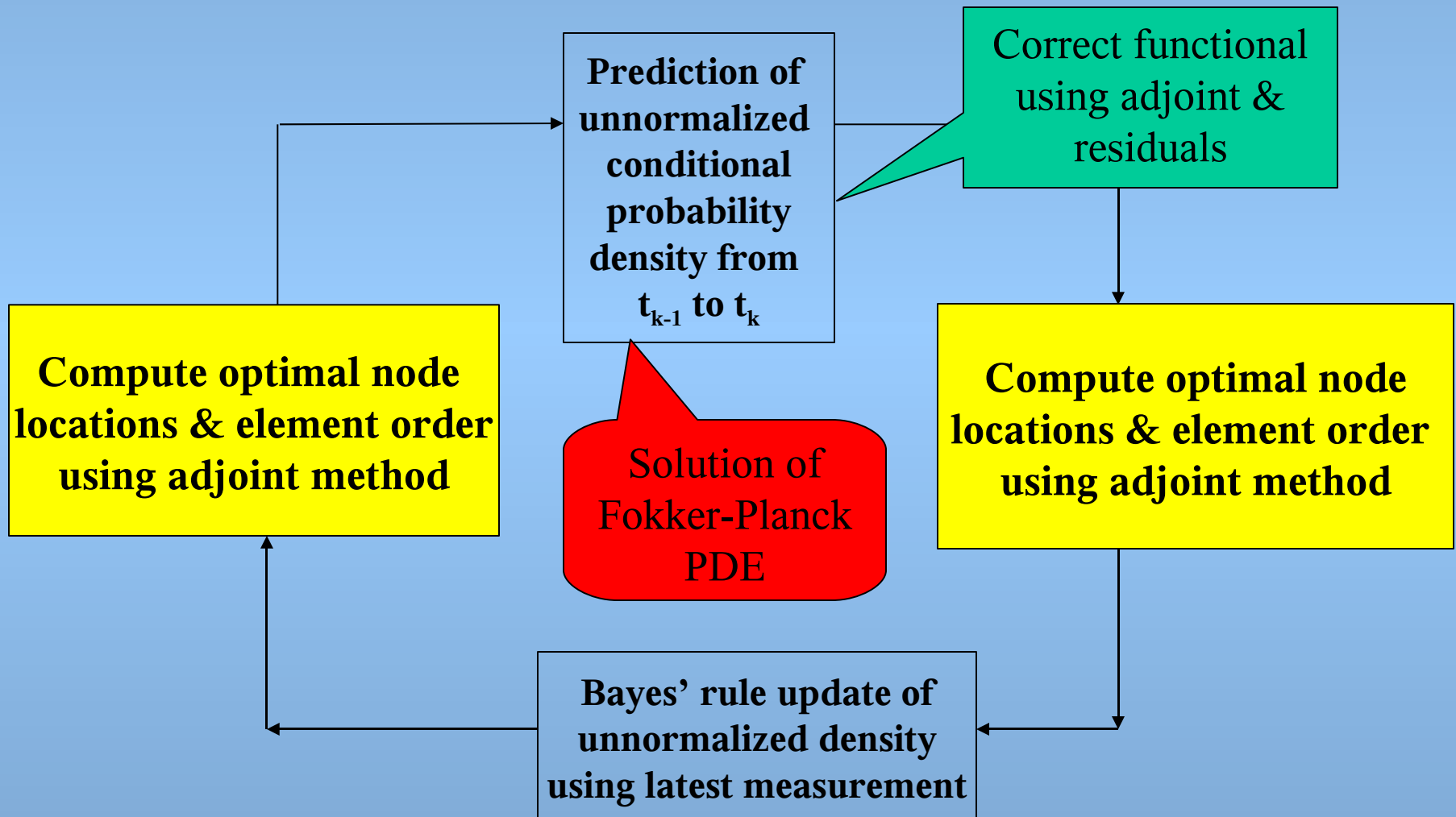
What is the approximate ratio ( $r$ ) of the volume of the unit ball to the volume of the smallest cube that contains it for  $d = 100$  dimensions?

- (a)  $r = 10^{-4}$
- (b)  $r = 10^{-6}$
- (c)  $r = 10^{-10}$
- (d)  $r = 10^{-69}$

## Anti-particle filter vs. particle filter

	Anti-particle filter	Particle filter
1. Prediction of density (drift)	Exact solution of Fokker-Planck PDE	Monte Carlo or QMC
2. Prediction of density (diffusion)	convolution	Monte Carlo or QMC
3. Adaptive method to avoid uniform grid	Adjoint method (MC or QMC sampling)	Proposal density (MC or QMC sampling)
4. Exploits smoothness	Yes	No
5. Feedback	Yes	No
6. Models errors in the density itself	Yes	No

# Adjoint Meshfree Nonlinear Filter



## Adjoint Method

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$$PDE : Lu = f$$

$$functional : J = \langle u, g \rangle$$

$$ADJOINT : L^*v = g$$

$$J = \langle u, L^*v \rangle = \langle Lu, v \rangle$$

$$\delta J = \langle Lu, v \rangle - \langle L\hat{u}, v \rangle$$

$$\delta J = \langle v - \hat{v} + \hat{v}, f - L\hat{u} \rangle$$

$$\delta J = \langle \hat{v}, f - L\hat{u} \rangle + \langle v - \hat{v}, f - L\hat{u} \rangle$$

## Exact solution of Fokker-Planck for $Q = 0$

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$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} f - \text{Tr} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) p$$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} f = -\text{Tr} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) p$$

$$\frac{dp}{p} = -\text{Tr} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) dt$$

$$p(x, t_k) = p(x, t_{k-1}) \exp \left( - \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} \text{Tr} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) dt \right)$$

# Variations on this theme

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Density representation	nonlinear filter	analogous meshfree PDE method
points	Particles or non-particles	h-version
Exponential family	Smooth functions	p-version
Hybrid of above (e.g., kernels, splines, RBF)	Sums of exponentials	hp-version

**Fred Daum, “Nonlinear filters:  
beyond the Kalman filter,” special  
tutorial issue of IEEE AES  
Systems Magazine, August 2005.**

# Summary

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- **Importance of concentration of measure for nonlinear filters**
- **Curse of dimensionality for classical particle filters**
- **Mesh free adjoint method for solving the Fokker-Planck equation**
- **Mesh free adjoint method for Bayes' rule turned into an ODE using homotopy**