



UTC Aerospace Systems



Theoretical Aspects of Prognostics

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Introduction & Motivation

Failure Prognostics & ToF PMF Computation

- Key Constituent Elements:
 - Knowledge about current system condition (Bayesian processors)
 - Characterization of future operating profiles (Stochastic processes)
 - System degradation model
 - ✓ Model structure
 - ✓ Model parameters
 - Module for uncertainty characterization in future state transitions
 - ❑ Monte Carlo, rare event simulation algorithms
 - ❑ PF-based, Sigma-points-based, NN-based prognostic algorithms

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- Dynamic Model for Feature Growth in Time:

$$\begin{cases} x_1(t+1) = x_1(t) + x_2(t) \cdot F(x_1(t), t, U) + \omega_1(t) \\ x_2(t+1) = x_2(t) + \omega_2(t) \end{cases}$$

- $x_1(t)$ is a state representing the fault dimension under analysis
 - $x_2(t)$ is a state associated with an unknown model parameter
 - U are external inputs to the system (load profile, etc.)
 - $F(x(t), t, U)$ is a general time-varying nonlinear function
 - $\omega_1(t)$ and $\omega_2(t)$ are white noises (non necessarily Gaussian)
- Predicted State Density:

$$\tilde{p}(x_{t+p} | y_{1:t}) = \int \tilde{p}(x_t | y_{1:t}) \prod_{j=t+1}^{t+p} p(x_j | x_{j-1}) dx_{t:t+p-1}$$

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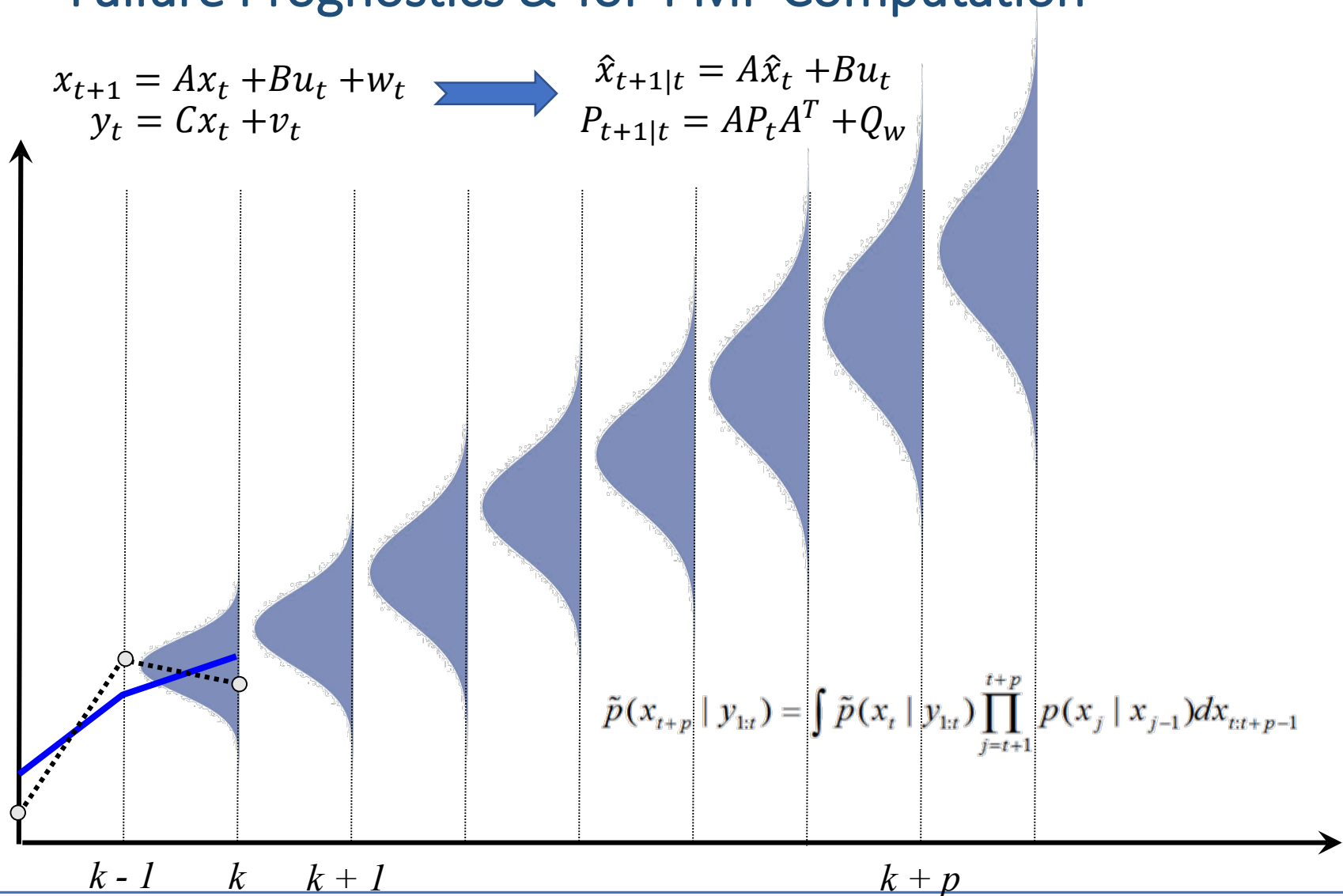
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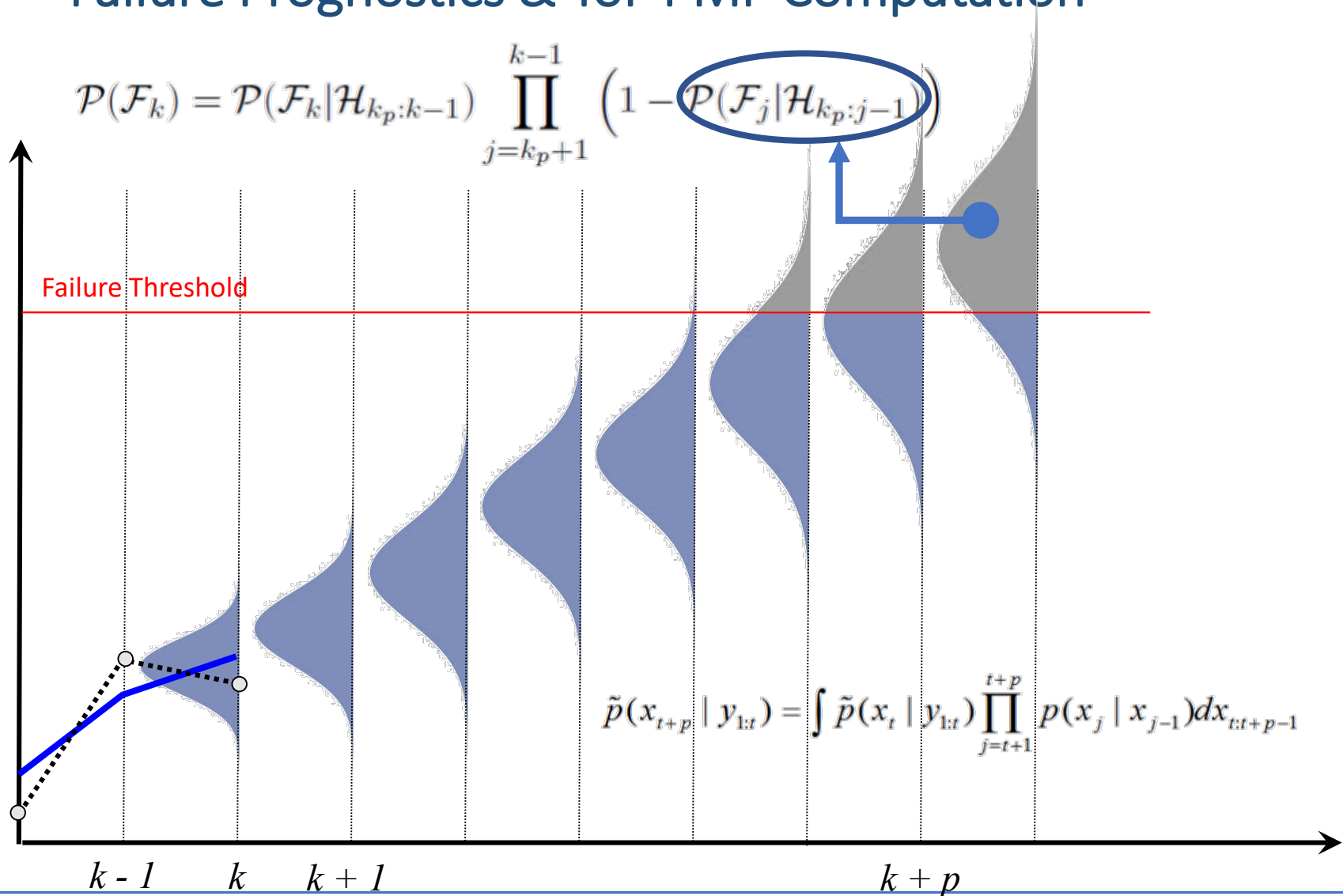
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We denote \mathcal{H}_k as the event of *being in a faulty, although operative*, condition at time k , whereas \mathcal{F}_k denotes the event of *undergoing a catastrophic failure* at time k .

We can define a probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{P})$, where

- $\Omega = \left\{ \left(\bigcup_{j=k_p}^{k-1} \mathcal{H}_j \right) \cup \mathcal{F}_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}, 0 < k_p < k \right\}$ is the sample space that determines all possible sequences where the system remains operative until the time instant “ k ”, when it actually undergoes a catastrophic failure,
- $\mathcal{B} = \sigma(\Omega)$ is the σ -algebra generated by Ω ,
- \mathcal{P} is a function that assigns a probability measure to every event in the σ -algebra \mathcal{B} .

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Failure Prognostics & ToF PMF Computation

Denoting $\mathcal{H}_{k_p:k} = \bigcup_{j=k_p}^k \mathcal{H}_j$, and according to the definition of conditional probability, it follows that:

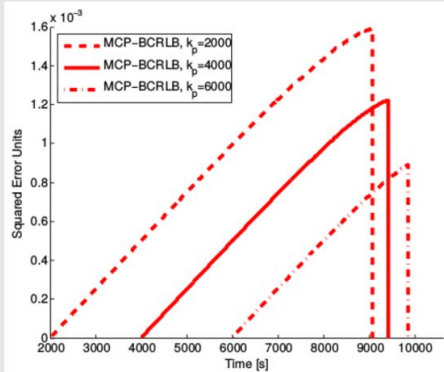
$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{F}_k) = \frac{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{F}_k, \mathcal{H}_{k_p:k-1})}{\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{H}_{k_p:k-1}|\mathcal{F}_k)}, \quad \forall k > k_p \quad (1)$$

It is assumed that the system can only experiment one catastrophic failure, then $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{H}_{k_p:k-1}|\mathcal{F}_k) = 1$. Hence,

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{F}_k) = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{F}_k, \mathcal{H}_{k_p:k-1}) = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{F}_k|\mathcal{H}_{k_p:k-1})\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{H}_{k_p:k-1}), \quad \forall k > k_p \quad (2)$$

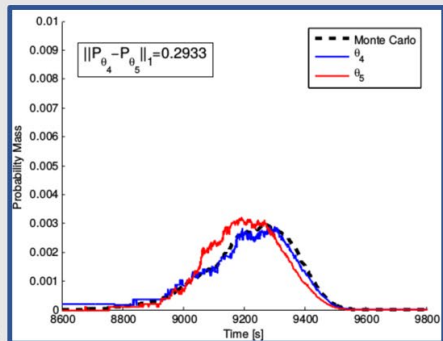
Compute (recursively) predictive Bayesian Cramér-Rao Lower Bounds for state MSE

$$x_k = f(x_{k-1}, \omega_{k-1})$$



Relax efficiency constraints (change θ_A)

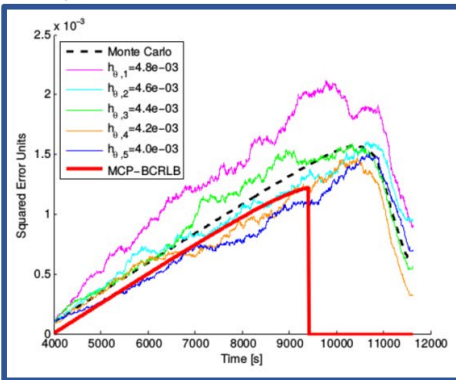
Design procedure concluded



Efficiency and efficacy constraints satisfied

Prognostic algorithm with hyper-parameter vector $\theta = [\theta_A^T \ \theta_B^T]^T$

- Fix θ_A using efficiency criteria and generate hyper-parameters candidates for θ_B
- Compare predictive MSE and MCP-BCRLBs



Evaluate performance of prognostic algorithm in terms of the estimated Time-of-Failure PMF (effectiveness)

