

# Outlier-robust estimation of uncertain-input systems with applications to nonparametric FIR and Hammerstein models

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# Overview



Introduction

Modeling the uncertain-input system

Inference in uncertain-input models

Empirical Bayes estimation algorithm

Examples

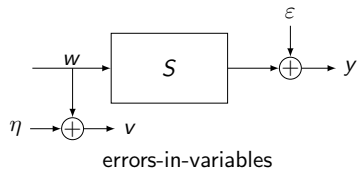
Outlier Robustness

Conclusions

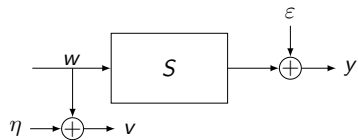
# Systems with uncertain inputs



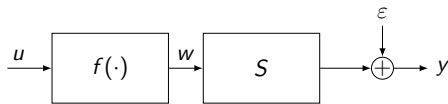
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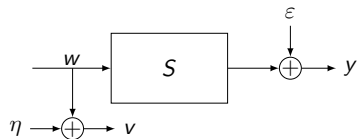


errors-in-variables

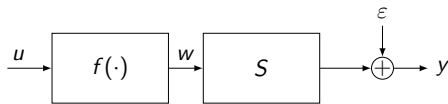


Hammerstein

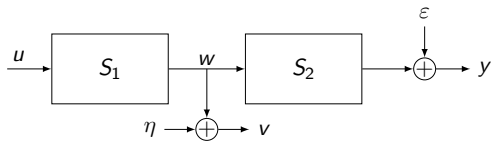
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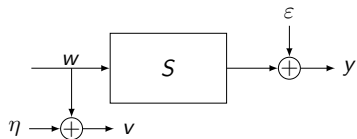


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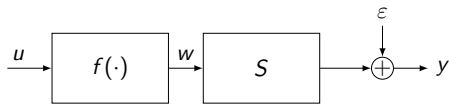


cascade

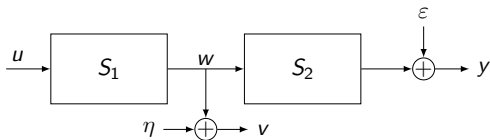
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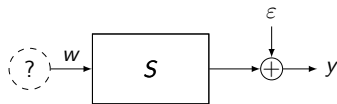
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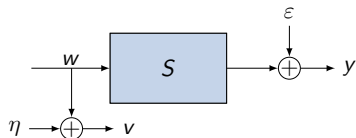


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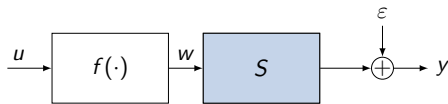


blind

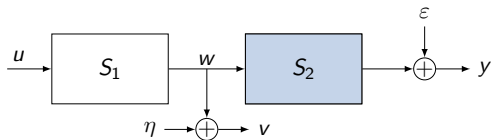
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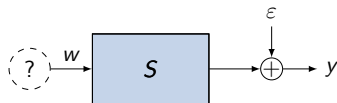
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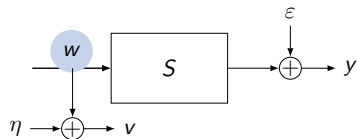


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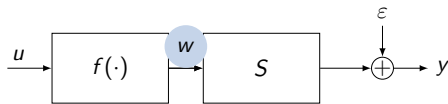
- A linear system  $S$



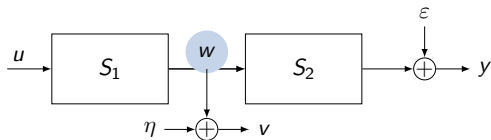
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errors-in-variables



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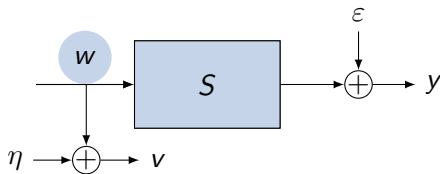
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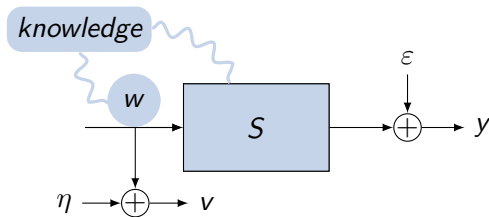
- A linear system  $S$
- An unknown input signal  $w$

# The uncertain-input system



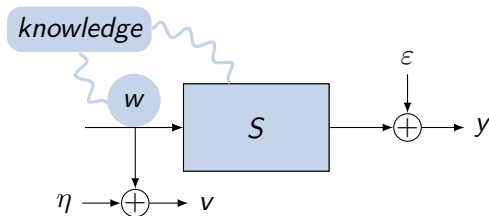
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# The uncertain-input system



- Linear system  $S$
- Unknown input  $w$
- Prior knowledge

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*How do we model these?*

# Gaussian processes



- Gaussian distribution over functions

$$f(\cdot) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu(\cdot), K(\cdot, \cdot))$$

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- The values of the function have a joint Gaussian distribution

$$\begin{bmatrix} f(x_1) \\ f(x_2) \\ f(x_3) \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mu(x_1) \\ \mu(x_2) \\ \mu(x_3) \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} K(x_1, x_1) & K(x_1, x_2) & K(x_1, x_3) \\ K(x_2, x_1) & K(x_2, x_2) & K(x_2, x_3) \\ K(x_3, x_1) & K(x_3, x_2) & K(x_3, x_3) \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

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- Given values of the function  $y = f(\tilde{x})$ , we can estimate

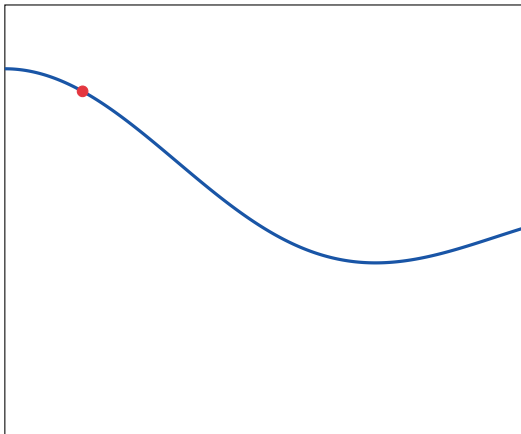
$$\hat{f}(x) = \mathbf{E} \{f(x)|y\} = \mu(x) + K(x, \tilde{x})[K(\tilde{x}, \tilde{x})]^{-1}(y - \mu(\tilde{x}))$$



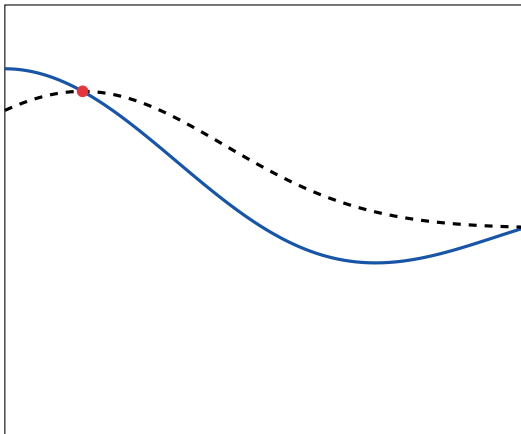
# Gaussian processes



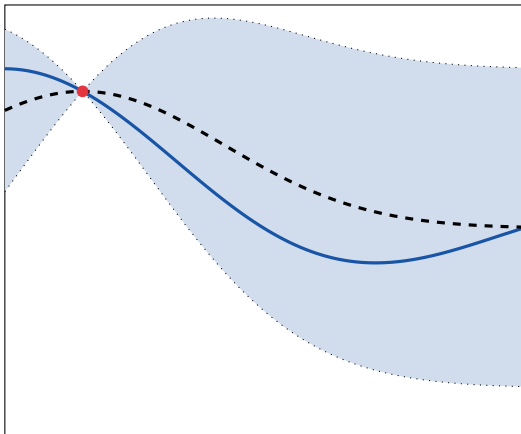
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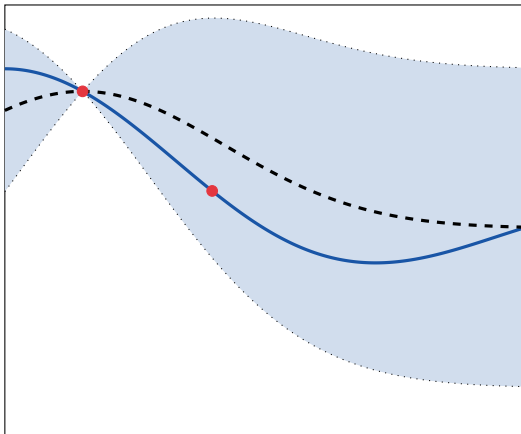
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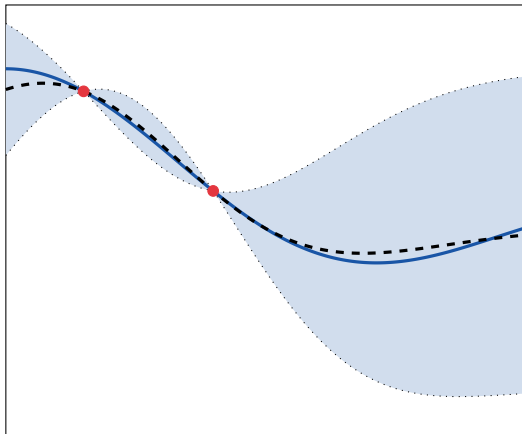
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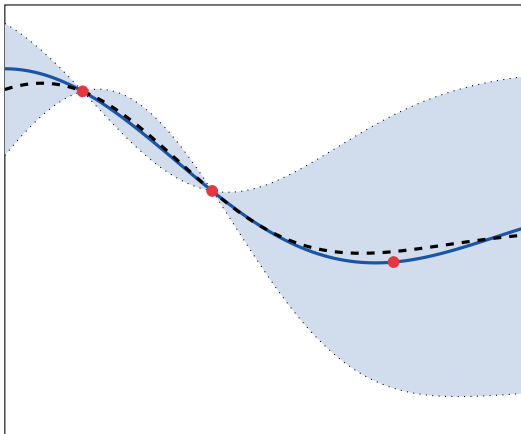
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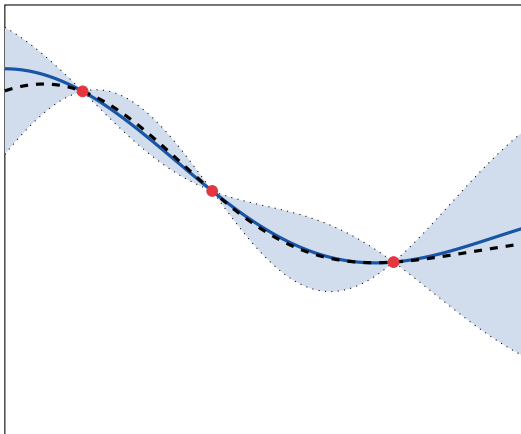
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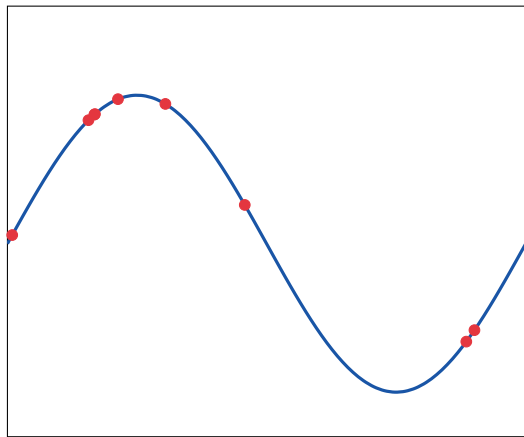


# Gaussian processes



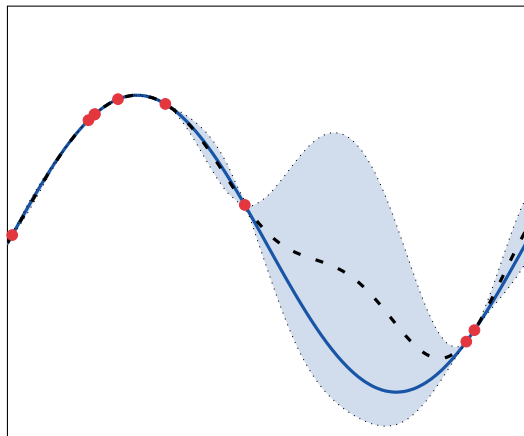


# Using Gaussian processes to encode information



$$K(x_1, x_2) = e^{-\frac{1}{\theta}(x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

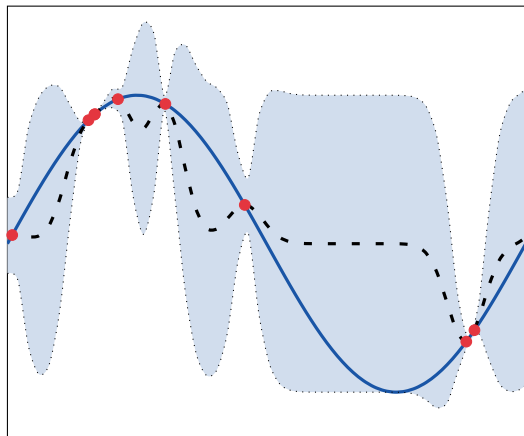
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$$K(x_1, x_2) = e^{-\frac{1}{\theta}(x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

- $\theta = 0.1$

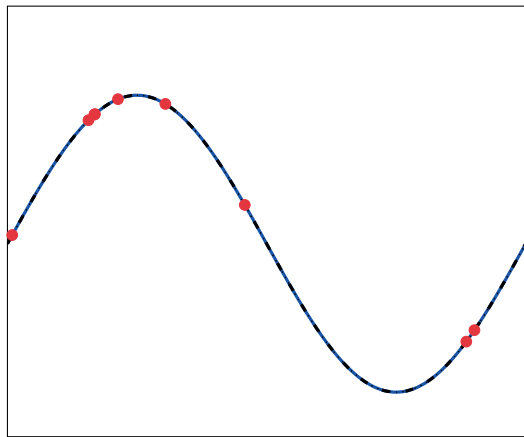
# Using Gaussian processes to encode information



$$K(x_1, x_2) = e^{-\frac{1}{\theta}(x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

- $\theta = 0.1$
- $\theta = 0.01$

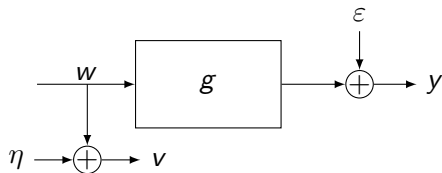
# Using Gaussian processes to encode information



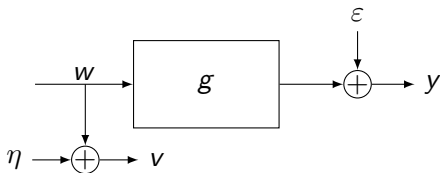
$$K(x_1, x_2) = e^{-\frac{1}{\theta}(x_1 - x_2)^2}$$

- $\theta = 0.1$
- $\theta = 0.01$
- $\theta = 1$

# Modeling the uncertain input system



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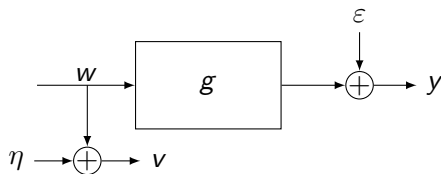


- Gaussian process prior for the impulse response

$$g \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_g(\rho), K_g(\rho))$$

$$[\mu_g(\rho)]_i = \mathbf{E}\{g_i\} \quad [K_g(\rho)]_{ij} = \mathbf{cov}\{g_i, g_j\}$$

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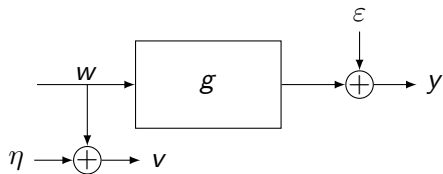
$$[\mu_g(\rho)]_i = \mathbf{E} \{g_i\} \quad [K_g(\rho)]_{ij} = \mathbf{cov} \{g_i, g_j\}$$

- Gaussian process prior for the input

$$w \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_w(\theta), K_w(\theta))$$

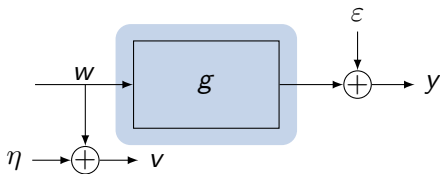
$$[\mu_w(\theta)]_i = \mathbf{E} \{w_i\}, \quad [K_w(\theta)]_{ij} = \mathbf{cov} \{w_i, w_j\}$$

# Measurement setup





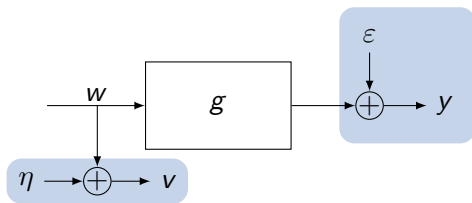
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$$y_{\text{noiseless}} = w * g$$

- The noises are additive, Gaussian, and white

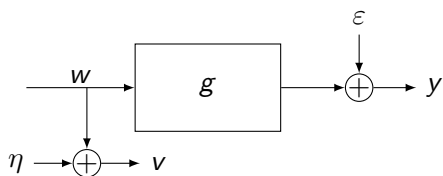
$$v = w + \eta$$

$$\eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_v^2 I)$$

$$y = w * g + \varepsilon$$

$$\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y^2 I)$$

# The uncertain-input model



## The uncertain-input model

$$\begin{cases} y = w * g + \epsilon \\ v = w + \eta \\ \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y^2 I) \\ \eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_v^2 I) \\ g \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_g(\rho), K_g(\rho)) \\ w \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_w(\theta), K_w(\theta)) \end{cases}$$

# Inference in uncertain-input models



- Bayesian assumption

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- We do not know the hyperparameters  $\tau = \{\rho, \theta, \sigma_v^2, \sigma_y^2\}$ !

$$\hat{g} = \hat{g}(\tau) \quad \hat{w} = \hat{w}(\tau)$$

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$$\hat{g} = \hat{g}(\tau) \quad \hat{w} = \hat{w}(\tau)$$

*We need to estimate them from data*



# Empirical Bayes





- We choose the hyperparameters that maximize the *marginal likelihood*

$$\hat{\tau} = \arg \max_{\tau} p(y, v; \tau)$$

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$$\hat{\tau} = \arg \max_{\tau} p(y, v; \tau)$$

- Estimates:

$$\hat{g}(\hat{\tau}) = \mathbf{E} \{g|v, y; \hat{\tau}\} \quad \hat{w}(\hat{\tau}) = \mathbf{E} \{w|v, y; \hat{\tau}\}$$

Is it really that simple?



# Is it really that simple?



Short answer

Yes

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Short answer

*Yes*

Long answer

*Yes, but...*

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Yes, *but...*

- we need to calculate expected values ← Monte Carlo
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Yes, *but...*

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Yes, *but...*

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- some distributions are not available in closed form ← Gibbs
- we need to maximize the marginal likelihood ← EM

# Calculating the posterior mean



- We need the posterior means

$$\mathbf{E}\{g|y, v; \tau\}$$

$$\mathbf{E}\{w|y, v; \tau\}$$

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$$\mathbf{E}\{g|y, v; \tau\} = \int g p(g, w|y, v; \tau) dw dg$$

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*The joint distribution is problematic to compute!*



# Calculating the posterior mean

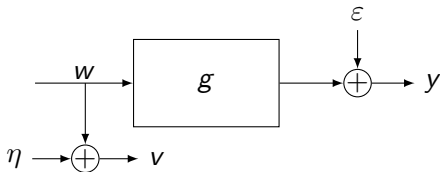


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# Monte Carlo integration

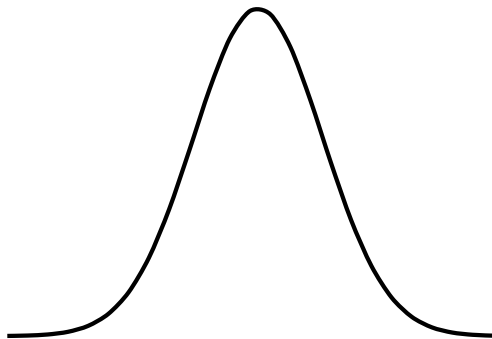


- We make a particle approximation of the distribution

$$p(\mathbf{g}, \mathbf{w} | y, \mathbf{v}; \tau) \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \delta(\mathbf{g} - \bar{\mathbf{g}}^{(j)}, \mathbf{w} - \bar{\mathbf{w}}^{(j)})$$

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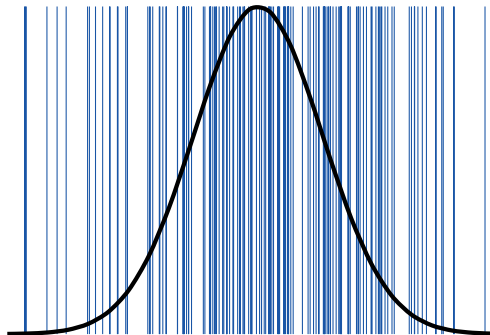


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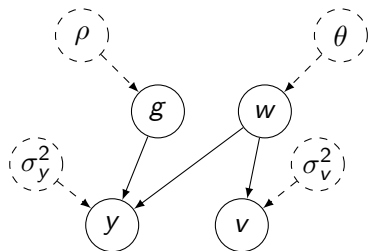
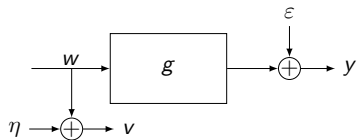
- Similarly

$$\mathbf{E}\{w|y, v\} = \int w p(g, w|y, v; \tau) dg dw \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \bar{w}^{(j)}$$

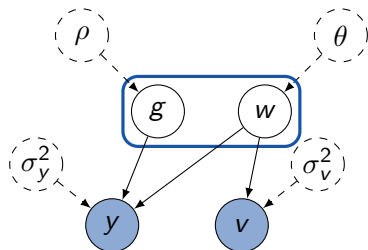
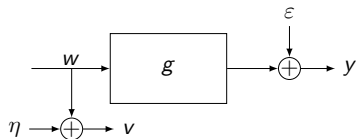
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# Particle approximation



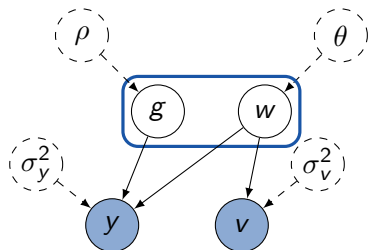
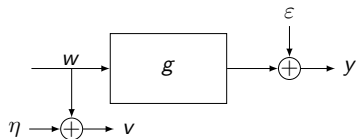
# Particle approximation



- We want samples from a joint distribution

$$p(g, w|y, v; \tau)$$

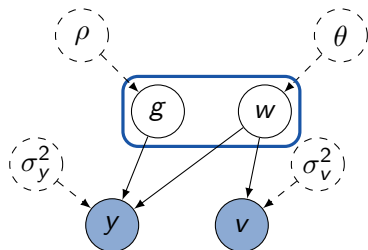
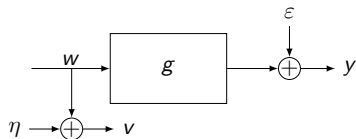
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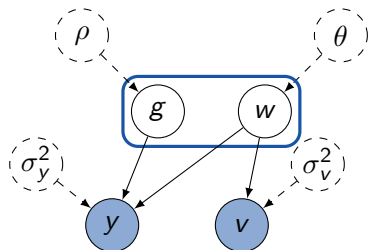
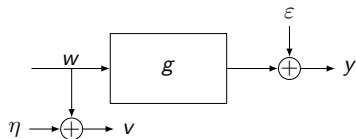
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- but

$$p(g|y, w; \tau)$$

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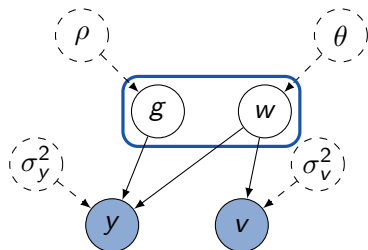
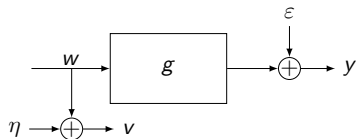
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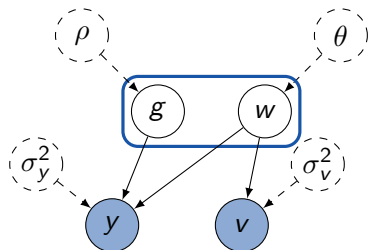
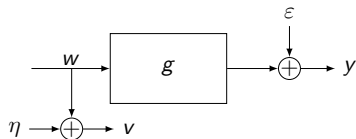
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$$p(w|y, v, g; \tau)$$



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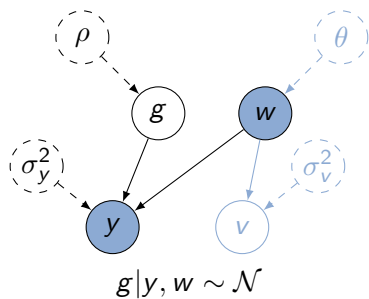
$$p(g, w|y, v; \tau) \leftarrow \text{difficult to evaluate!}$$

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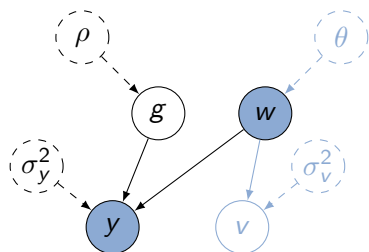
$$p(g|y, w; \tau) \leftarrow \text{Gaussian!}$$

$$p(w|y, v, g; \tau) \leftarrow \text{Gaussian!}$$

# The Gibbs sampler



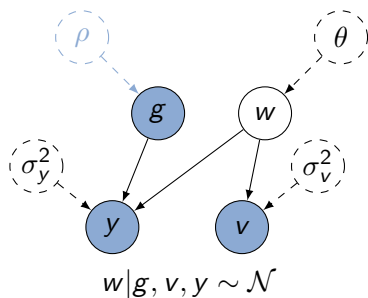
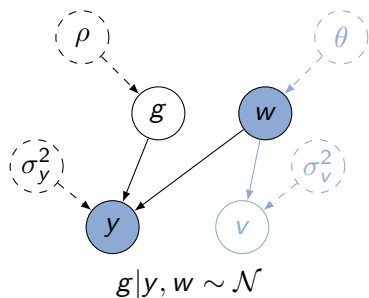
# The Gibbs sampler



$$g|y, w \sim \mathcal{N}$$

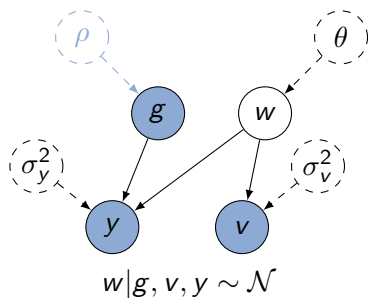
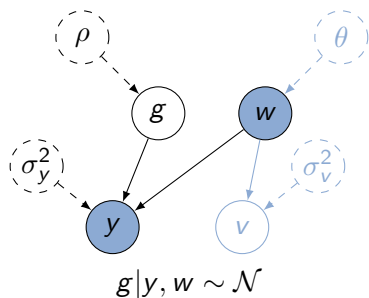
$$\bar{g}^{(k+1)} \sim p(g|y, \bar{w}^{(k)}; \hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}_y^2),$$

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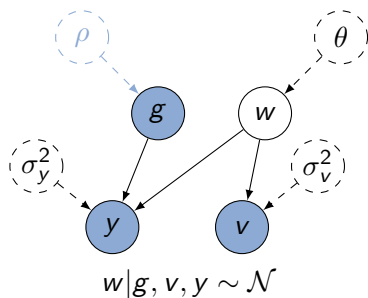
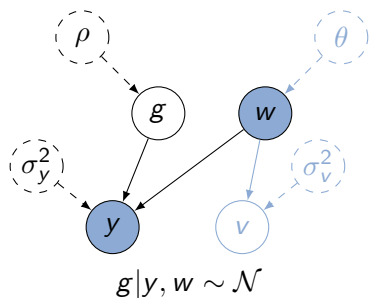
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$$\bar{g}^{(k+1)} \sim p(g|y, \bar{w}^{(k)}; \hat{\rho}, \hat{\sigma}_y^2),$$

$$\bar{w}^{(k+1)} \sim p(w|y, v, \bar{g}^{(k+1)}; \hat{\theta}, \hat{\sigma}_v^2)$$

# The Gibbs sampler

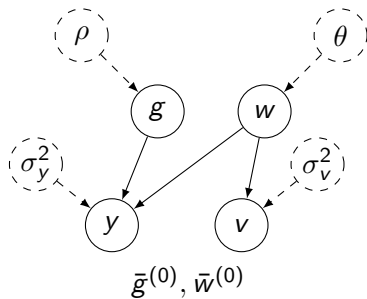
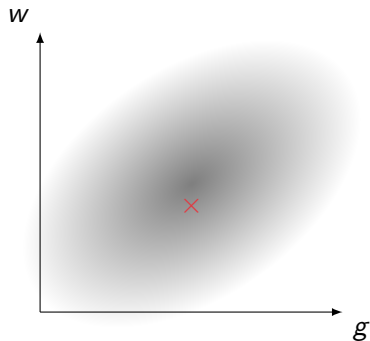


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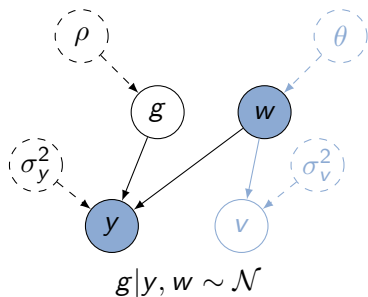
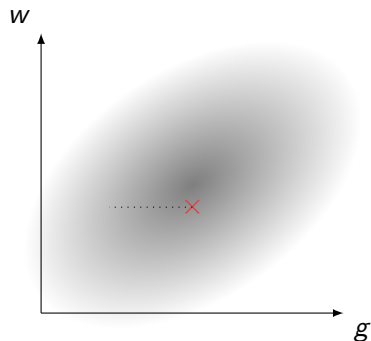
$(\bar{w}^{(k)}, \bar{g}^{(k)})$  are samples from  $p(g, w|y, v; \hat{\tau})$

# Gibbs sampling the UI model



$$\left\{ (\bar{g}^{(0)}, \bar{w}^{(0)}) \right\}$$

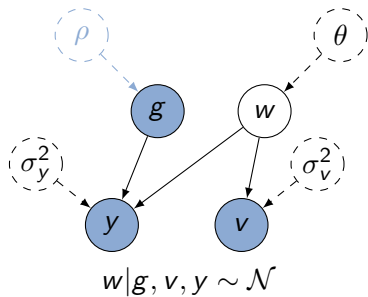
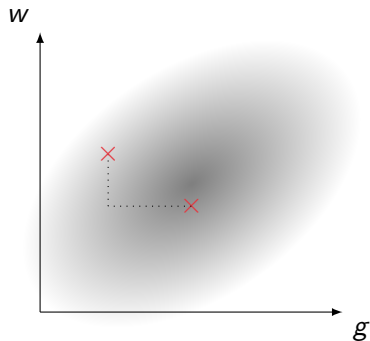
# Gibbs sampling the UI model



$$\left\{ (\bar{g}^{(0)}, \bar{w}^{(0)}) \quad (\bar{g}^{(1)}, \quad ) \right\}$$

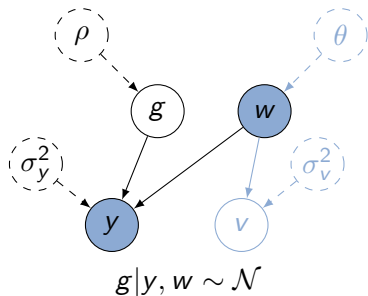
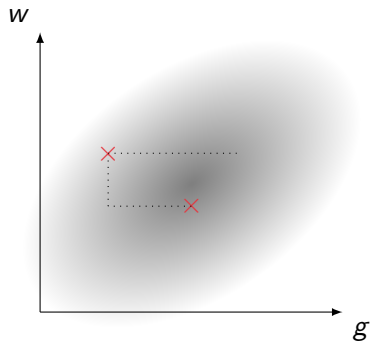


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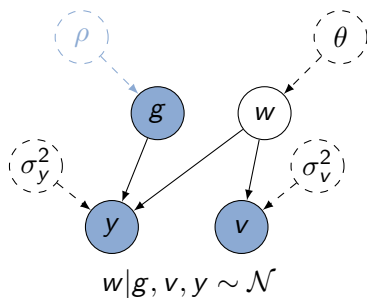
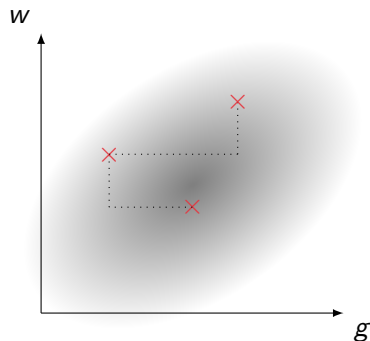
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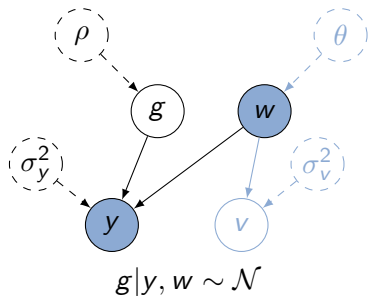
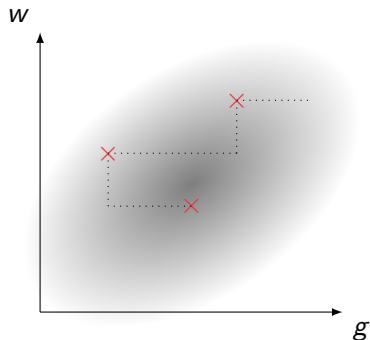
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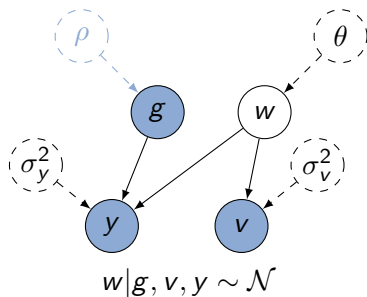
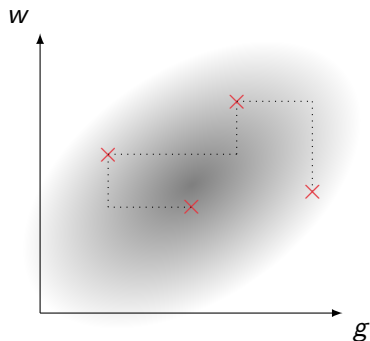
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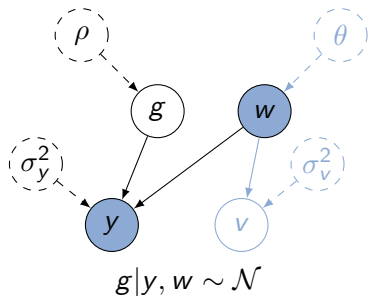
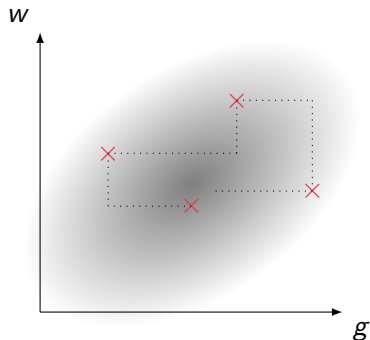
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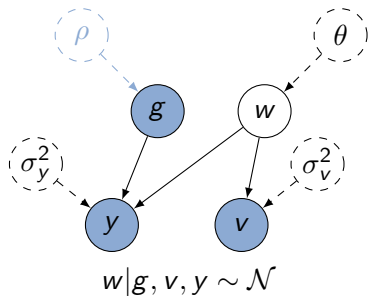
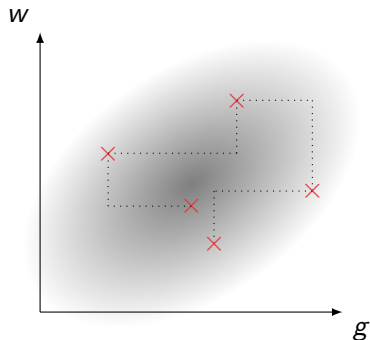
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- We want to compute the *marginal likelihood estimate*

$$\hat{\tau} = \arg \max_{\tau} p(y, v; \tau)$$



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*A maximum likelihood problem with missing data!*

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E-step  $Q(\tau, \tau^{(k)}) = \mathbf{E} \{ \log p(y, v, \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{w}; \tau) \}$   
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# EM for marginal likelihood estimation



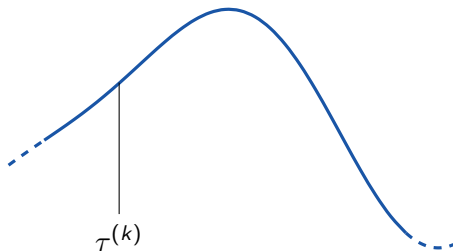
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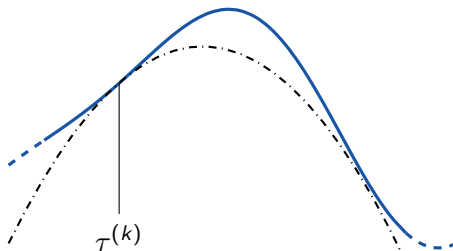
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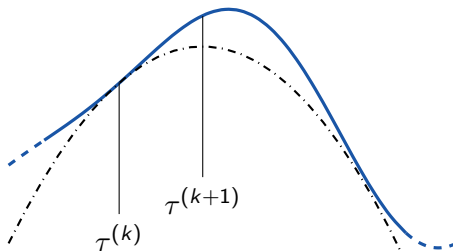
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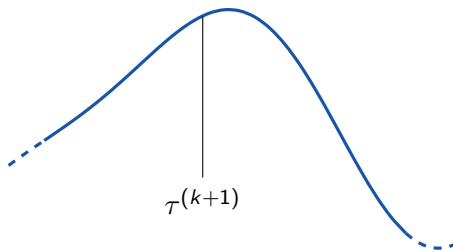
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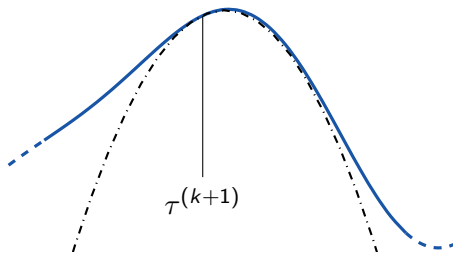
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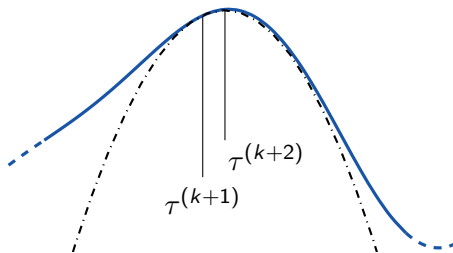
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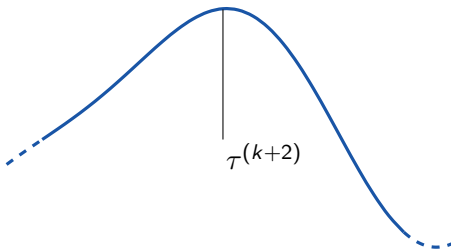
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# Monte Carlo Expectation Maximization



- The E-step is difficult to evaluate

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## **MCEM for hyperparameter estimation**



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MC-step  $\{g^{(j)}, w^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^M =$  particle approximation of  $p(g, w|y, v; \tau^{(k)})$

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# Monte Carlo inference in UI models



- MCEM for hyperparameter estimation

MC-step  $\{g^{(j)}, w^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^M = \text{GIBBSSAMPLER}(\tau^{(k)})$

E-step  $\bar{Q}(\tau, \tau^{(k)}) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \log p(y, v, g^{(j)}, w^{(j)}; \tau)$

M-step  $\tau^{(k+1)} = \arg \max \bar{Q}(\tau, \tau^{(k)})$



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- Posterior means

$$\{\bar{g}^{(j)}, \bar{w}^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^M = \text{GIBBSAMPLER}(\hat{\tau})$$

$$\mathbf{E}\{g|y, v\} \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \bar{g}^{(j)}$$

$$\mathbf{E}\{w|y, v\} \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \bar{w}^{(j)}$$

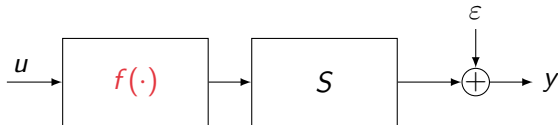
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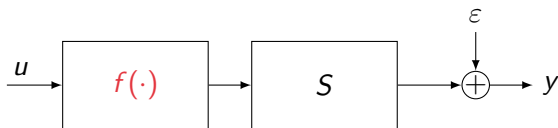
- Nonparametric Hammerstein model



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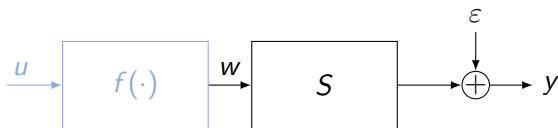
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# Example: Hammerstein models



- Nonparametric Hammerstein model

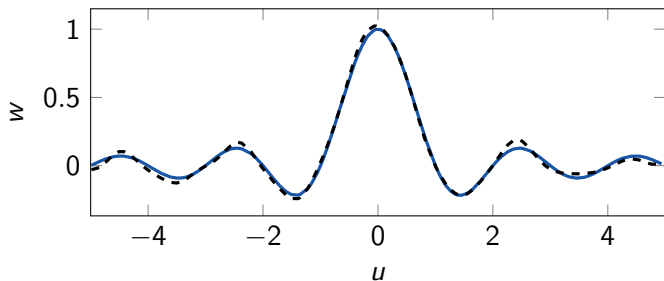
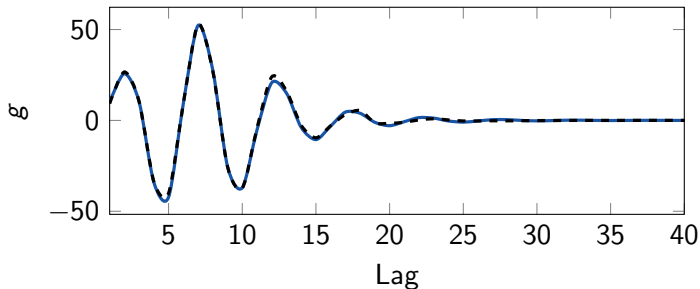


- uncertain-input model with

$$g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, K_g(\rho)) \quad w \sim \mathcal{N}(0, K_w(\theta))$$

$$K_g(\rho)_{i,j} = \underbrace{\rho_1^{\max(i,j)}}_{\text{Stable-spline kernel}} \quad [K_w(\theta)]_{ij} = \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{\theta} (u_i - u_j)^2 \right]$$

## Example: Hammerstein models



$n_{\text{lti}} = 40$ ,  $N = 400$ ,  $\text{SNR} = 10$ , — = true, - - - = estimated



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  1. MC Step: Gibbs sampler
    - ▶ Reduce the covariance matrices with SVD (Bad conditioning!)
    - ▶ Draw  $g$  and  $w$
    - ▶ Discard 200 burn-in particles
    - ▶ Generate 500 particles for  $w$  and  $g$

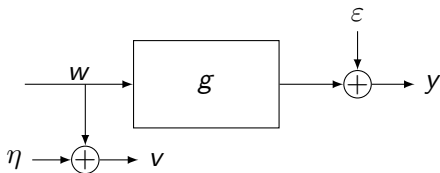


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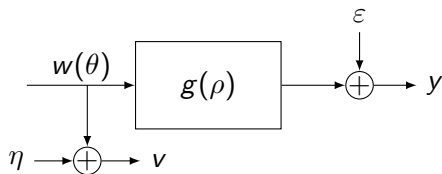
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  2. Discard 500 burn-in particles
  3. Generate 1000 particles for  $w$  and  $g$

# Special classes of systems



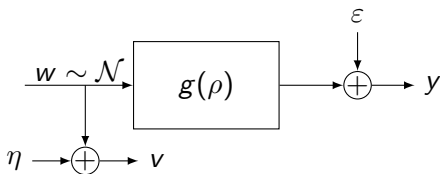
# Special classes of systems



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$$K_g(\rho) = 0 \quad K_w(\theta) = 0$$

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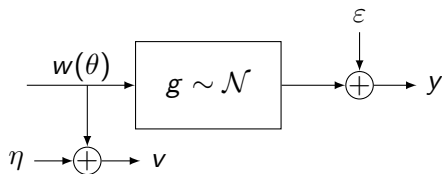
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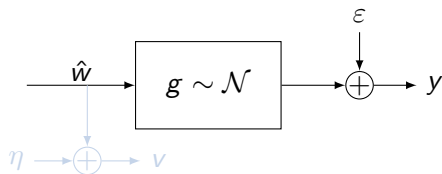
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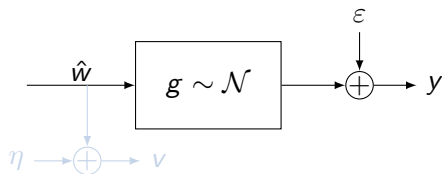
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$$w = \hat{w}$$



# Special classes of systems



- PIPS: parametric-input parametric-system models

$$K_g(\rho) = 0 \quad K_w(\theta) = 0 \leftarrow \text{ML and PEM!}$$

- GIPS: Gaussian-input parametric-system models

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- PIGS: parametric-input Gaussian-system models

$$K_w(\theta) = 0 \leftarrow \text{Bayesian FIR models!}$$

- EIGS: Estimated-input Gaussian-system models

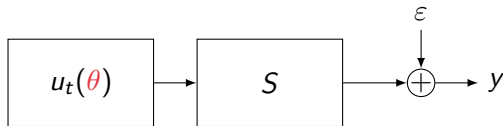
$$w = \hat{w}$$

# Example: Semi-blind models



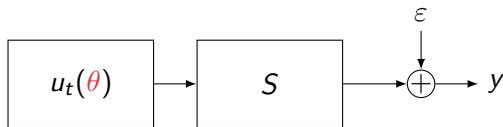
## Example: Semi-blind models

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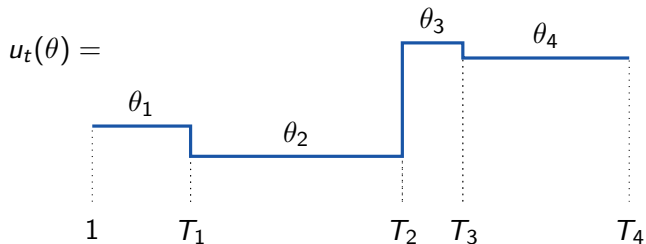


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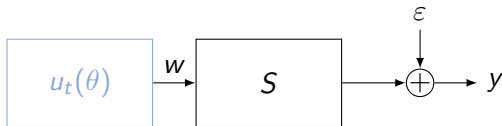
- Piecewise constant input



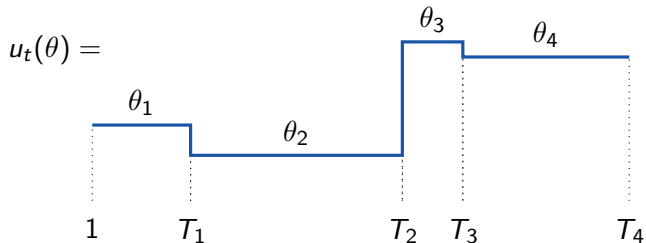
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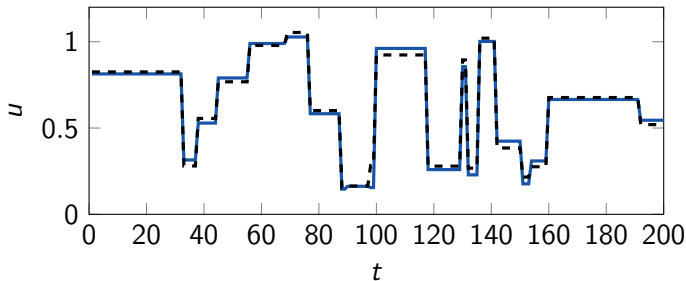
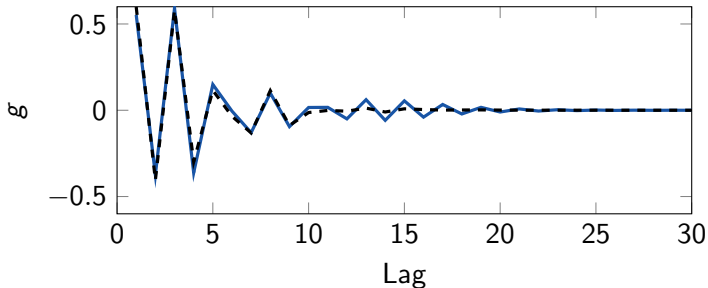
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- PIGS uncertain-input model with

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# Example: Semi-blind models



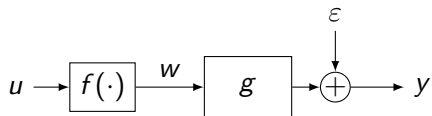
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# Other examples



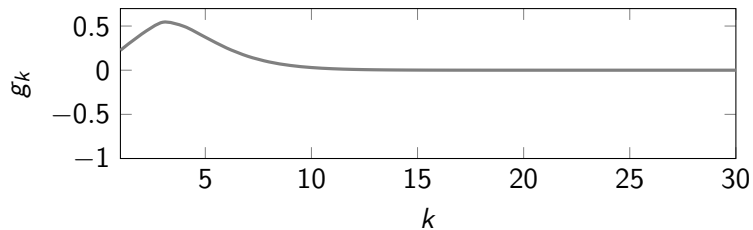
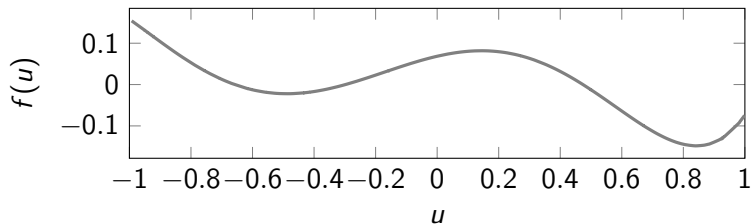
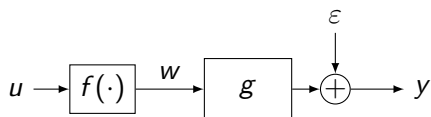
- Errors-in-variables
- Cascaded models
- Estimation of initial conditions
- Systems with missing data

## Another Hammerstein example

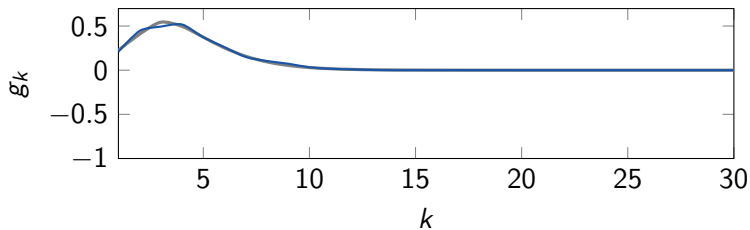
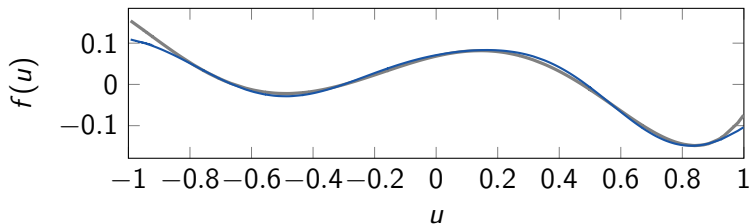
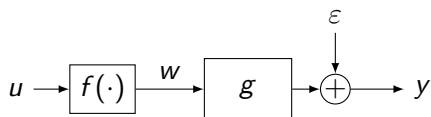




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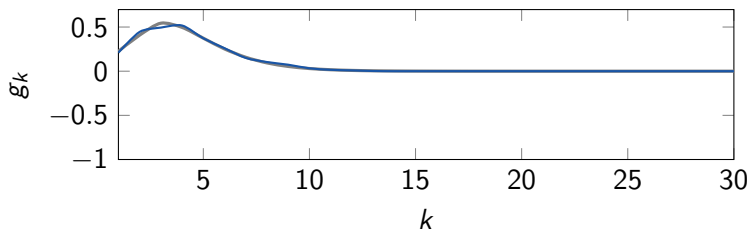
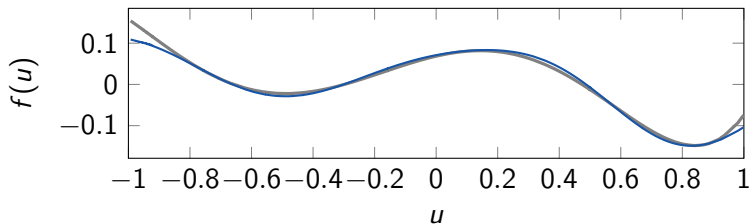
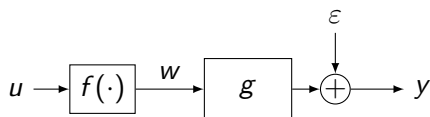


## Another Hammerstein example



$$\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

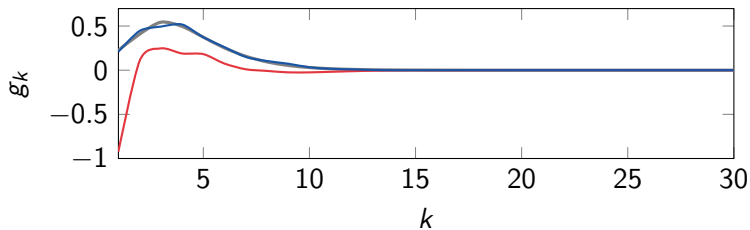
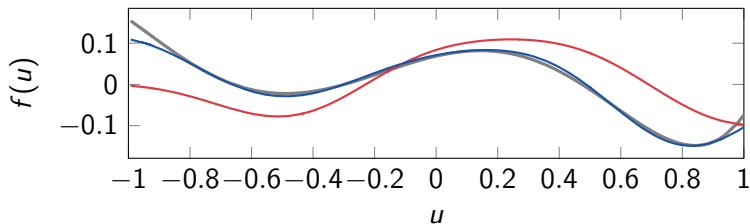
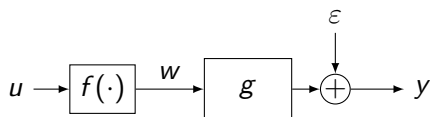
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$$\varepsilon \sim 0.8\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) + 0.2\mathcal{N}(0, 10\sigma^2)$$

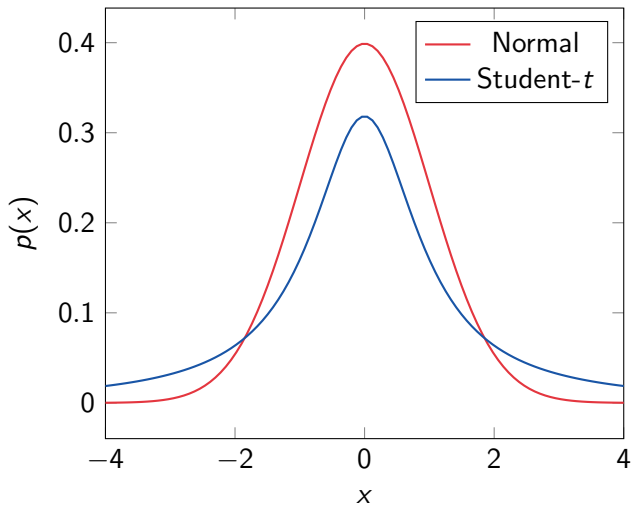
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We need a noise model with *heavy tails*



## Compounded Gaussian noise model

- Student- $t$  model for the noise

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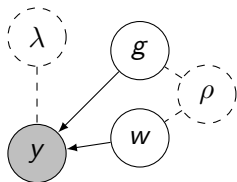
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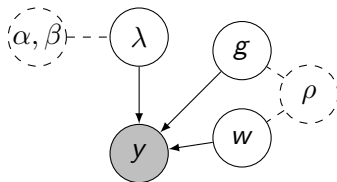
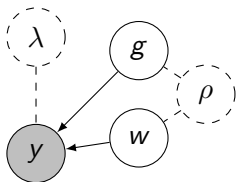
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## Model estimation

- Priors

$$g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, K_g(\rho)), \quad w \sim \mathcal{N}(0, K_w(\rho)), \quad \lambda_t \sim \text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta) \\ t = 1, \dots, N$$

- Data model

$$y|g, w, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N \sim \mathcal{N}(Wg, \text{Diag}\{\lambda_t^{-1}\})$$

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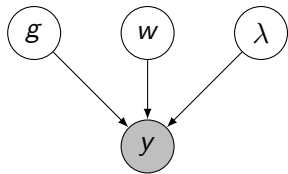
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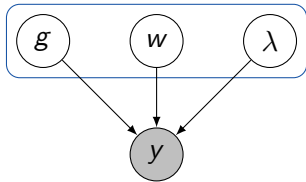
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- Same type of model as before only more hyperparameters ( $\{\lambda_t\}_{t=1}^N$  instead of  $\sigma_y^2$ )
- Same tools as before can be used (MCEM, Gibbs sampling)

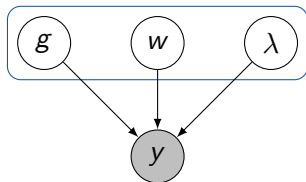
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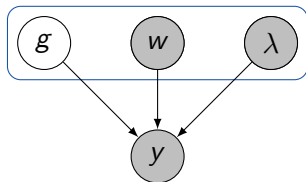
## Gibbs sampling



In sequence



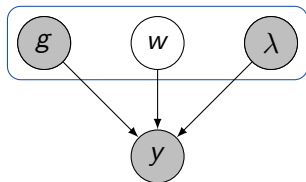
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In sequence

1. sample  $\bar{g}^{(i)} | \bar{w}^{(i-1)}, \bar{\lambda}^{(i-1)}, y$

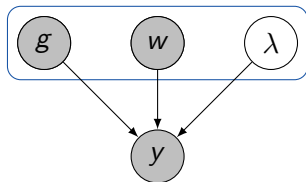
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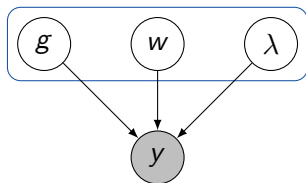
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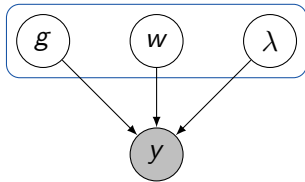
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### Result

A Markov chain with  $(g, w, \lambda | y)$  as its stationary distribution

## Gibbs sampling



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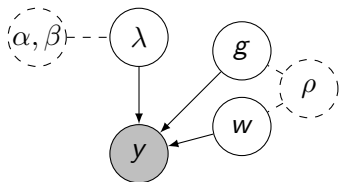
### Known expressions for

$$g | y, w, \lambda \sim \mathcal{N}(m_g, P_g)$$

$$w | y, g, \lambda \sim \mathcal{N}(m_w, P_w)$$

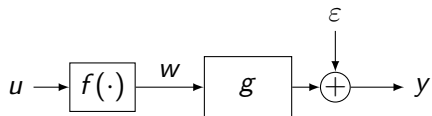
$$\lambda | y, g, w \sim \text{Ga}(\alpha_t, \beta_t)$$

# Approximate inference algorithm for Robust UI models

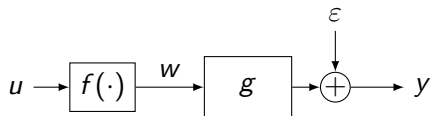


- 1: **procedure** ESTIMATE-ROBUST(data)
- 2:     Initialize  $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}$
- 3:     **while** not converged **do** ▷ EM
- 4:         Approximate  $Q(\rho, \alpha, \beta)$  ▷ Gibbs sampling
- 5:          $\hat{\rho}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta} \leftarrow \arg \max_{\rho, \alpha, \beta} Q(\rho, \alpha, \beta)$  ▷ Scalar optimization
- 6:     **end while**
- 7:      $\hat{g}, \hat{w}, \hat{\lambda} \leftarrow \mathbf{E} \{ \{ \} g, w, \lambda | y; \hat{\rho}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta} \}$  ▷ Gibbs sampling
- 8:     **return**  $\hat{g}, \hat{w}, \hat{\lambda}$
- 9: **end procedure**

## Simulation study: Hammerstein systems



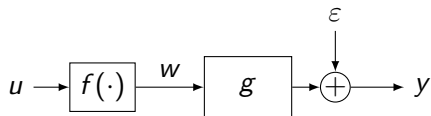
## Simulation study: Hammerstein systems



- Polynomial nonlinearity of order  $p \in 5, \dots, 10$

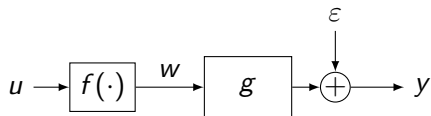


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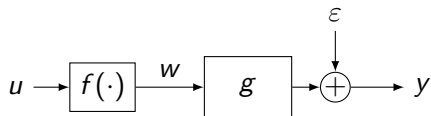
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- $N = 300$  samples of output, uniform white input in  $-1, 1$

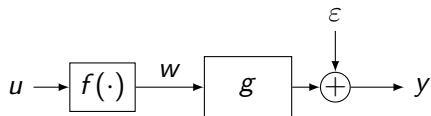
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Two methods

## Simulation study: Hammerstein systems

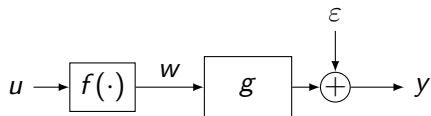


- Polynomial nonlinearity of order  $p \in 5, \dots, 10$
- Transfer function of order  $m \in 3, 4, 5$
- $N = 300$  samples of output, uniform white input in  $-1, 1$

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**H-Gaussian** with Gaussian noise model

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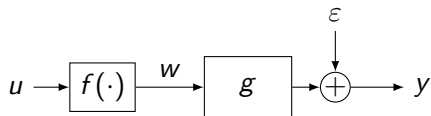
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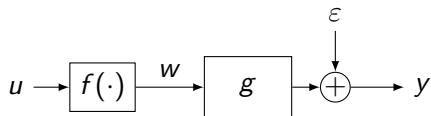
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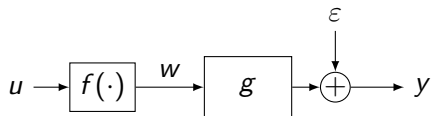
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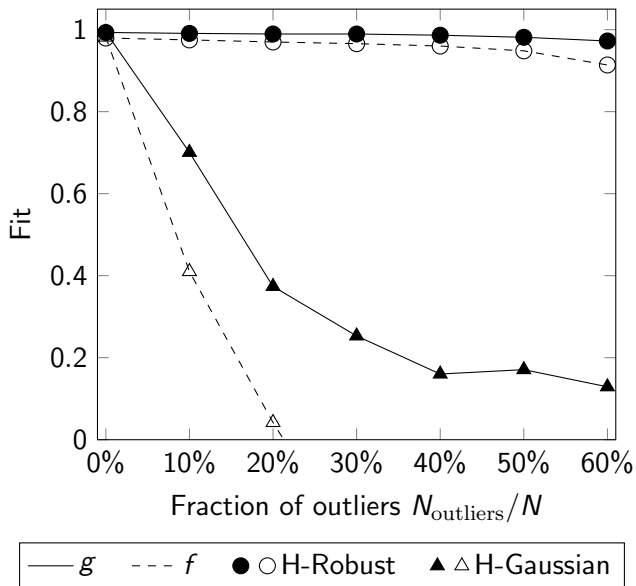
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Two experiments

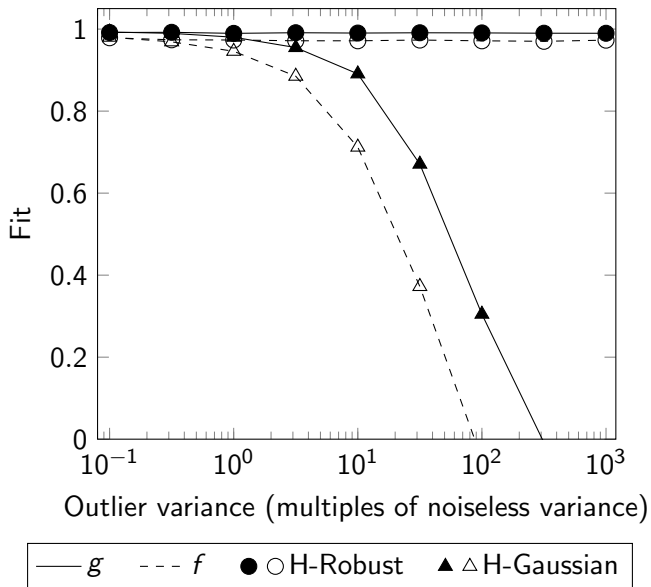
- Varying number of outliers (with fixed variance  $10\sigma^2$ )
- Varying outlier variance (with fixed fraction 15%)



## Outlier fraction results



## Outlier variance results



# Conclusions



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