



# Using Software Transformation Systems as Program Generator Backends

Ewen Denney      Johann Schumann

USRA/RIACS, NASA Ames

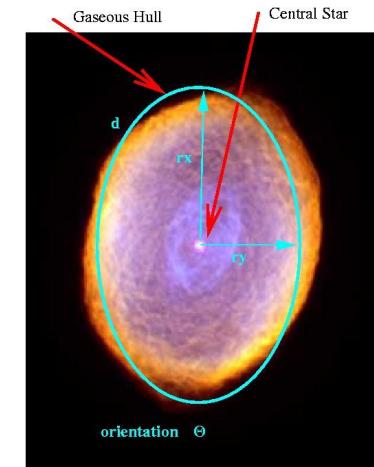
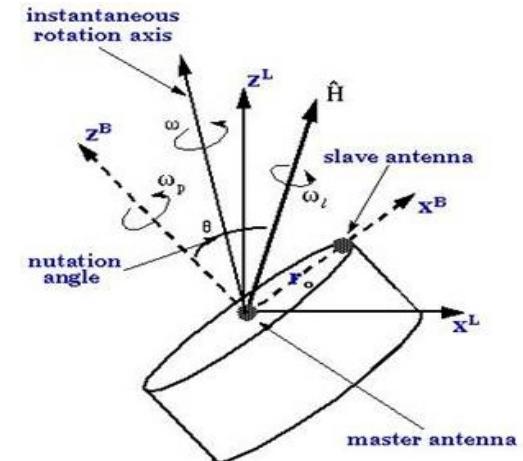
Bernd Fischer  
ECS, U Southampton



# Application domains



- Two main application domains
  - Guidance, Navigation & Control
  - Data Analysis
- Two common characteristics
  - Concise mathematical models
  - Algorithmic variability
- Top two algorithm families
  - Kalman Filters → AutoFilter
  - Clustering → AutoBayes
- Highly *mathematical* domains





# GN&C



Spacecraft, aircraft, ships, and (increasingly) cars require methods for the accurate determination of *position* and *attitude*

- Equipment:
  - Compass, clock, GPS, INS
  - Radio navigation (DME, Radar)
- Problems:
  - Measurements are noisy
  - Each measurement contributes partial information
  - Sensor failures (degradation, transient, permanent)
- Overall task:

Calculate the best possible state estimate using all available information

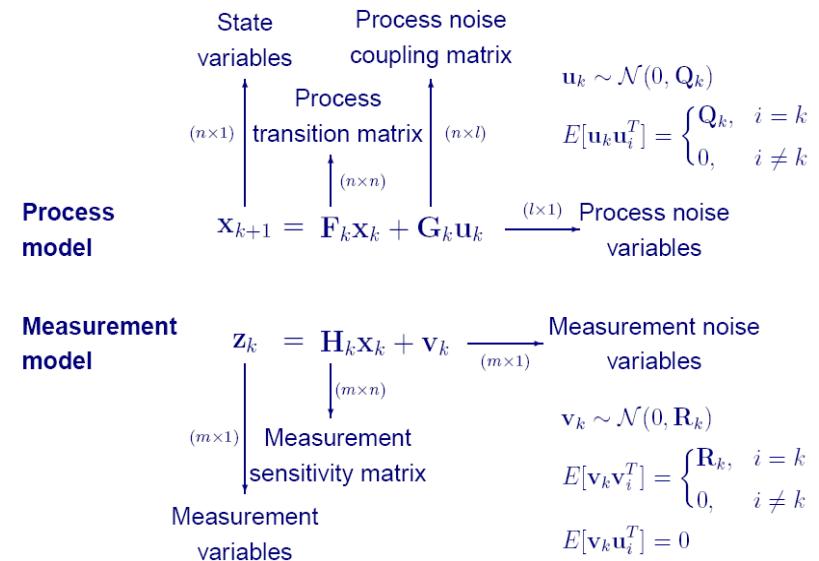




# Synthesis for GN&C

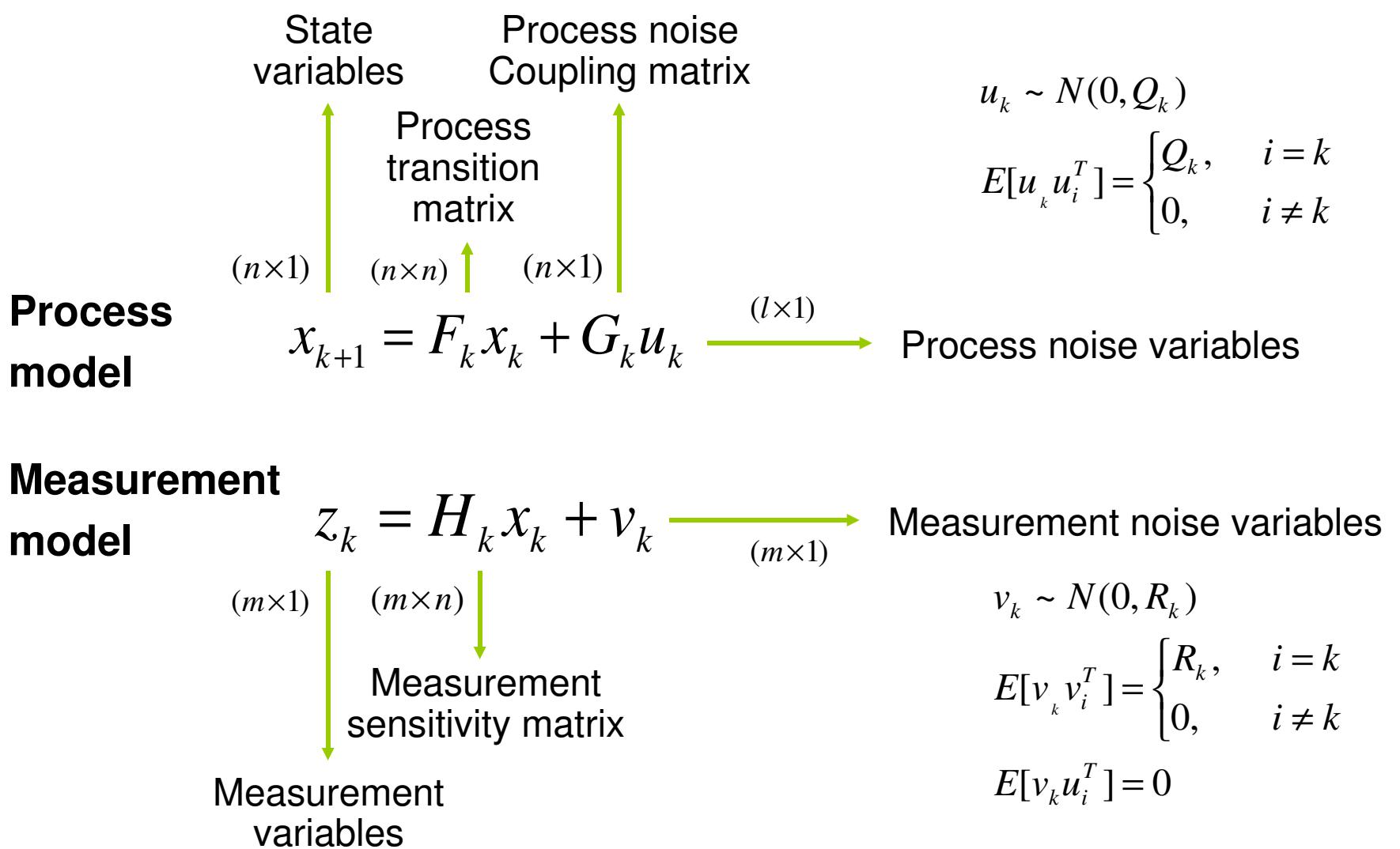


- Standard technology: Kalman filters
- Commercial autocoders insufficient
  - algorithmic variability
  - not adaptable
- Specialized generator for GN&C: AutoFilter
- High-level domain-specific modeling language
  - differential equations
- Supports model-based development





# Kalman Filters: Model

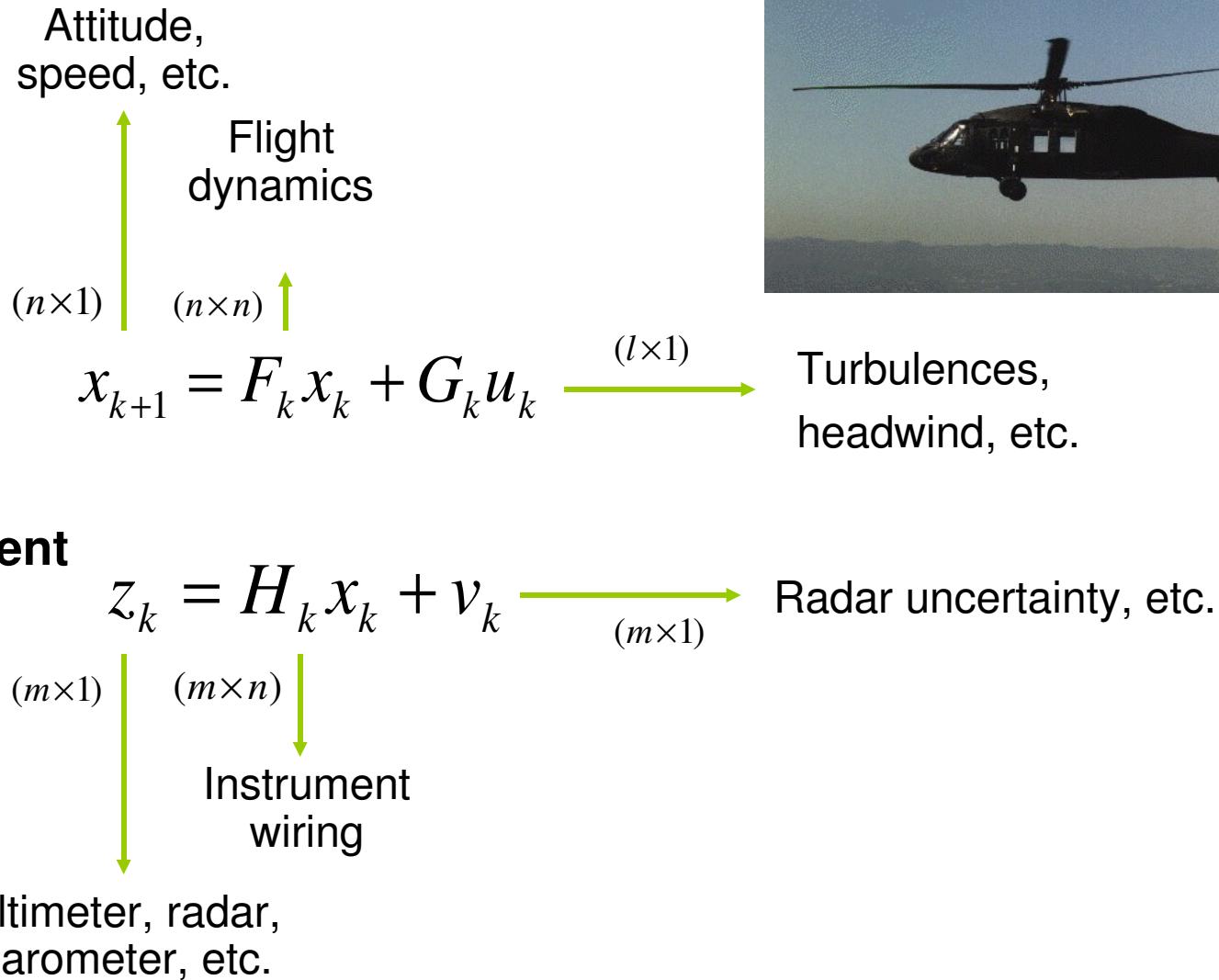




# Kalman Filters: Model



**Process  
model**





# Kalman Filters: Model



**Process model**

Location, yaw,  
yaw rate  
 $(n \times 1)$

Rover  
dynamics  
 $(n \times n)$

$$x_{k+1} = F_k x_k + G_k u_k \xrightarrow{(l \times 1)} \text{Wheel slippage}$$

**Measurement model**

$$z_k = H_k x_k + v_k \xrightarrow{(m \times 1)} \text{Gyro uncertainty, etc.}$$

$(m \times 1)$

$(m \times n)$

Sensors

IMU, wheel odometry





# Kalman Filters: Algorithm



1. Initialization: initialize all vectors and matrices.

$$K^- = P^- H^T (H P^- H^T + R)^{-1}$$

2. Measurement update: read and process measurement  $z$ .

$$x^+ = x^- + K(z - Hx^-)$$

$$P^+ = (I - KH)P^-$$

3. Temporal update: *estimate* one step ahead in time.

$$x^- = Fx^+$$

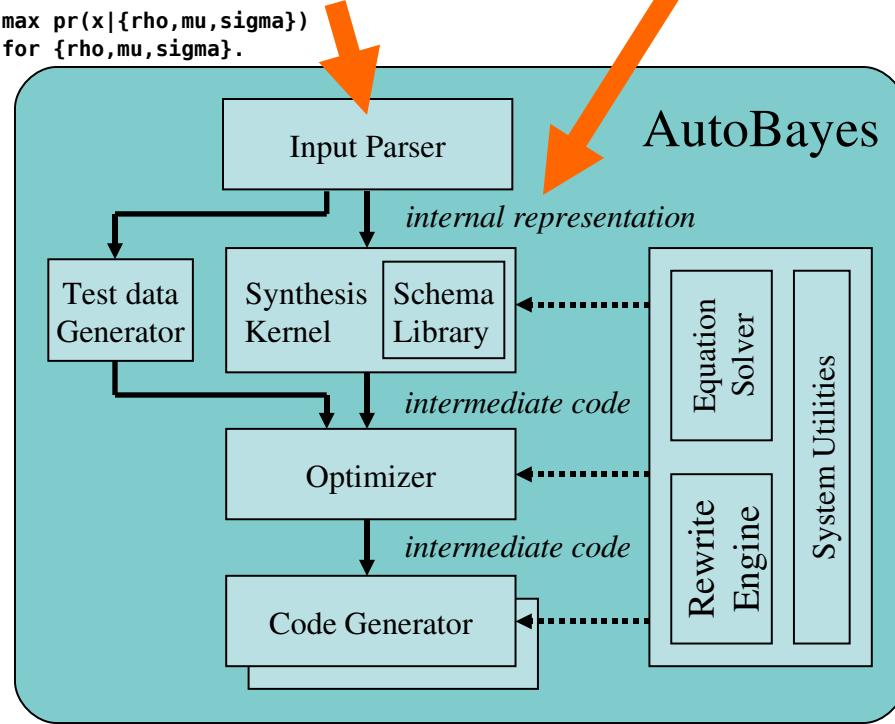
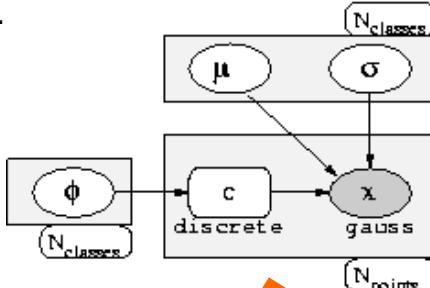
$$P^- = FP^+F^T + Q$$

4. Go to 2.



# Synthesis architecture

```
model mog as 'Mixture of Gaussians'.  
  
const nat n_points.  
  where 0 < n_points.  
const nat n_classes := 3.  
  where n_classes << n_points.  
...  
double mu(0..n_classes-1).  
double sigma(0..n_classes-1).  
  where 0 < sigma(_).  
...  
data double x(0..n_points-1).  
x(I) ~ gauss(mu(c(I)), sigma(c(I))).  
  
max pr(x|{rho,mu,sigma})  
for {rho,mu,sigma}.
```



- Schema library
- Symbolic subsystem
  - rewrite engine
  - symbolic differentiation
  - (polynomial) equation solver
- Procedural intermediate language
- Multiple backends
  - C/C++ based: Octave, Matlab, CLARAty
- Multiple programs synthesized

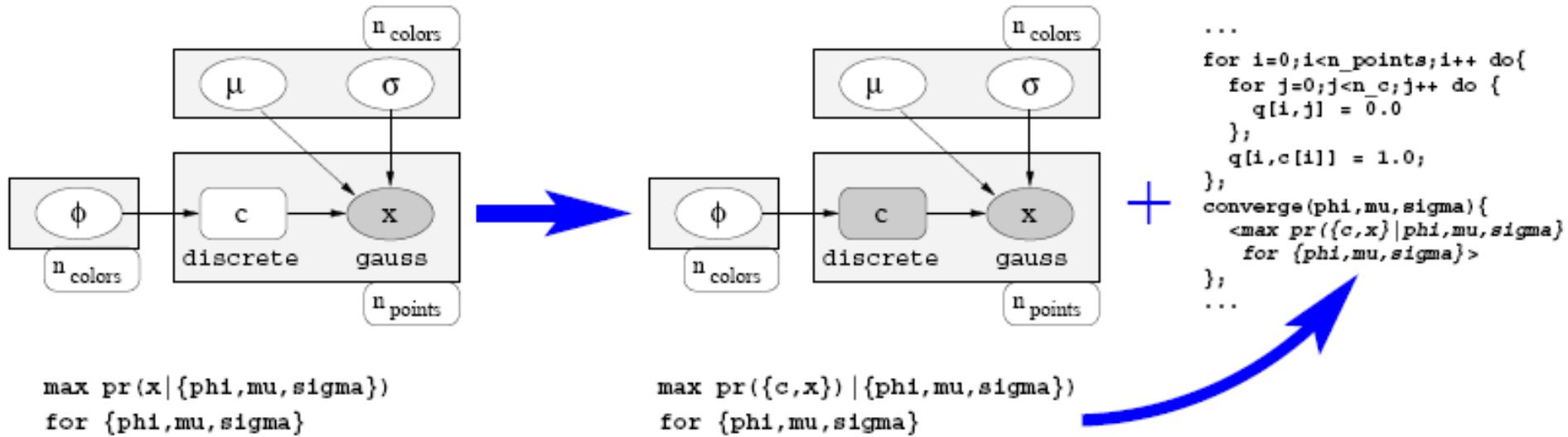


# Schemas

- Algorithmic knowledge encoded as *schemas*
    - Schema = Conditions + Code fragment
    - Recursively composed
    - Progressive instantiation of solution
    - Generates platform-independent intermediate code



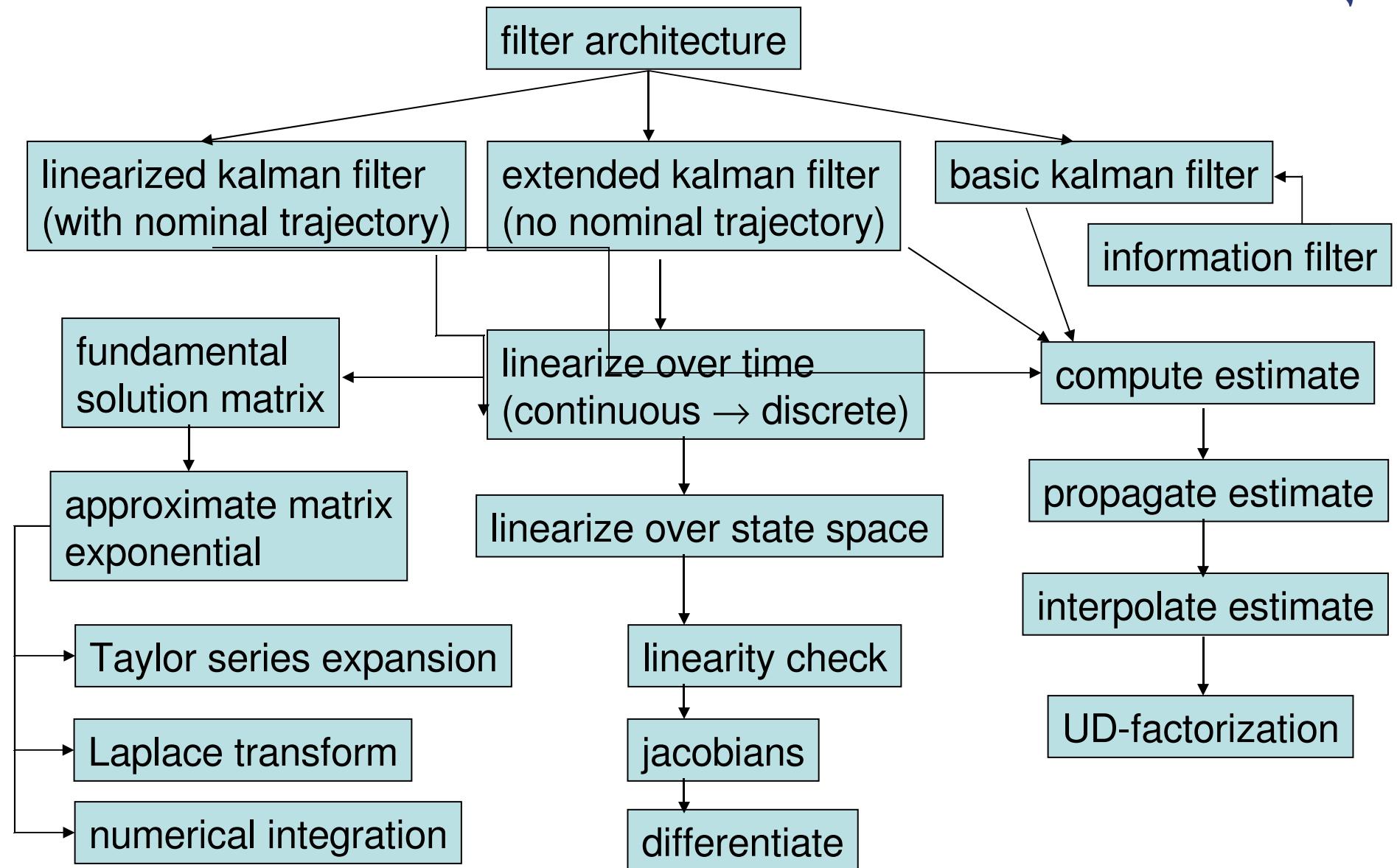
# Schemas as Transformations



- Big-step transformations
  - horizontal (model decompositions / transformations)
  - vertical (domain-specific algorithms)
- Implemented as combination of techniques
  - meta-program (check conditions)
  - graph rewriting (transform model)
  - templates (represent code fragments)



# Schema Hierarchy





# Rewrites as Transformations



Small-step transformations encoded as  
conditional rewrites:  $C \Rightarrow L = R$

- Differentiation
  - Discretization
  - Taylor expansion
  - Matrix identities
  - Linearization of set of equations
  - Approximations
  - Trigonometry
- (+ simple algebraic identities)



# STS for Optimizations (I)



Observation: schema-based program construction offers *opportunities* for optimization

- based on use of independent building blocks
  - loop fusion
- based on instantiation of building blocks
  - loop unrolling
  - strength reduction
  - scalarization
- based on repeated use of specification information
  - constant propagation



# STS for Optimizations (II)



Observation: schema-based program construction offers *support* for optimization

- exploits knowledge available at synthesis time
  - schema( $\max f(X, Y)$  wrt  $X$ , Prog) :-  
Prog = <numeric optimization routine>
    - can hoist  $Y$  out of loops without dataflow analysis
- similar in spirit to anticipatory optimization
- requires integration of optimization and synthesis



# Conclusions

- Highly mathematical domains
  - rich structure for transformations
- Combination of synthesis and optimization promising
  - maximum effect requires tight integration