

# A Hamiltonian approach to the adjoint technique

(with application to a Variational Gaussian Process  
Approximation)

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# Variational Data Assimilation



$$J(x) = \frac{1}{2} (x_0 - x_b)^T B^{-1} (x_0 - x_b) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - H(x_i))^T R_n^{-1} (y_i - H(x_i))$$

Find

$$\min_{x_0} J(x)$$

Subject to the strong constraint that the model states are a solution to the numerical model and that the tangent linear hypothesis holds.

Adjoint variable  $\lambda$ :

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_0} \leftarrow -\lambda_0$$

## Hamiltonian formulation of 4D-Var

$$L = \int_0^T [J + \lambda(t)(\dot{x} - f(x))] dt = \int_0^T \tilde{L} dt$$

$$p \equiv \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}}$$

$$H(x, \lambda) = p^T \dot{x} - \tilde{L} = -J + f(x)^T \lambda$$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \lambda} = f(x), \quad (\text{model})$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = \nabla_x J - (\nabla f(x))^T \lambda. \quad (\text{adjoint})$$

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial x_0} = B^{-1}(x_0 - x_b) - \lambda_0 = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial x(T)} = \lambda(T) = 0.$$

## Non-autonomous system

Consider extended system:

$$(x_1, \dots, x_d, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d; x_{d+1}, \lambda_{d+1})$$

Define a new Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = H(x, \lambda, x_{d+1}) + \lambda_{d+1}$$

$$\dot{x}_i = \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial \lambda_i} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \lambda_i},$$

$$\dot{x}_{d+1} = \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial \lambda_{d+1}} = 1,$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_i = -\frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial x_i} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x_i},$$

$$\dot{\lambda}_{d+1} = -\frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial x_{d+1}} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$$

$$i = 1 : d$$

## Numerical scheme

Euler-B scheme for extended Hamiltonian:

$$x_i^{k+1} = x_i^k + h \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial \lambda_i} (x_i^k, \lambda_i^{k+1}, x_{d+1}^k, \lambda_{d+1}^{k+1})$$

$$\lambda_i^{k+1} = \lambda_i^k - h \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial x_i} (x_i^k, \lambda_i^{k+1}, x_{d+1}^k, \lambda_{d+1}^{k+1})$$

$$x_{d+1}^{k+1} = x_{d+1}^k + h \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial p_{d+1}} (x_i^k, \lambda_i^{k+1}, x_{d+1}^k, \lambda_{d+1}^{k+1})$$

$$\lambda_{d+1}^{k+1} = \lambda_{d+1}^k - h \frac{\partial \hat{H}}{\partial \lambda_{d+1}} (x_i^k, \lambda_i^{k+1}, x_{d+1}^k, \lambda_{d+1}^{k+1})$$

Euler-B is a symplectic integrator

# Symplectic maps



$$z = (x, \lambda, x_{d+1}, \lambda_{d+1})$$

$$\dot{z} = J \nabla_z H(z)$$

$$J^T = -J$$

$$z(t^0) = z_0$$

$$\phi_t(z) = z(t; z^0, t^0)$$

$$\left( D_z \phi_t(z) \right)^T J^{-1} \left( D_z \phi_t(z) \right) = J^{-1}$$

**Theorem.** If  $\phi$  is a symplectic map of the extended system, then corresponding non-autonomous system is also a symplectic map.

# Numerical schemes

Euler-B method:

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + h \frac{\partial H}{\partial \lambda} (x^k, \lambda^{k+1}) = x^k + hf(x^k)$$

$$\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^k - h \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} (x^k, \lambda^{k+1}) = \lambda^k + h \left( \nabla J_k - \nabla f(x^k)^T \lambda^{k+1} \right)$$

Euler method:

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + hf(x^k)$$

$$\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^k + h \left( \nabla J_k - \nabla f(x^k)^T \lambda^k \right)$$

# Variational Gaussian Process Approximation



Project '**Variational Inference in Stochastic Dynamic  
(Environmental) models (VISDEM)**':

Aston University

TU Berlin

UCL

University of Surrey



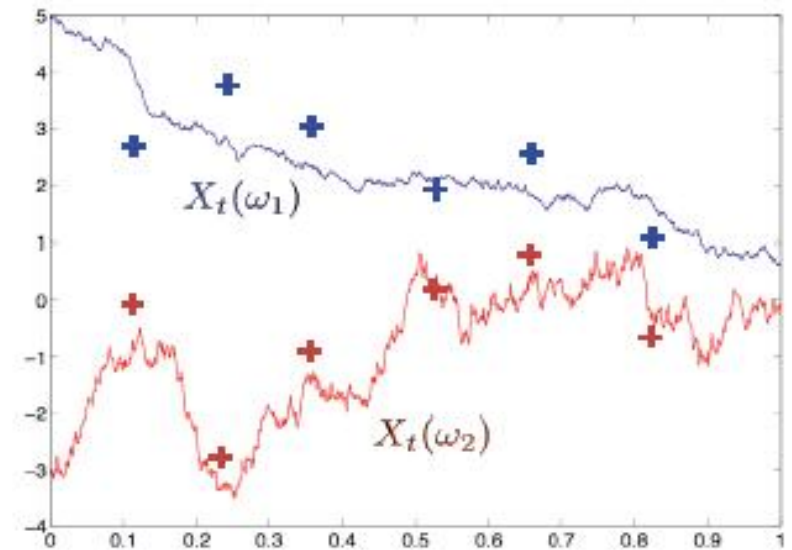
# Variational Gaussian Process Approximation

Stochastic dynamics:

$$dx_t = f(x_t, t)dt + \sigma dW_t$$

Noisy observations:

$$y_n = x_{t=t_n} + \varepsilon_n, \quad \text{where } \varepsilon_n \sim N(0, R)$$



# Variational Gaussian Process Approximation

Non-Gaussian processes are approximated by a Gaussian processes  $Q$  :

$$dx_t = f_L(x_t, t)dt + \sigma dW_t$$

$$f_L(x_t, t) = -\alpha x_t + \beta$$

Kullback-Leibler divergence:

$$KL[Q\|P] = \left\langle \ln \frac{Q}{P} \right\rangle_Q$$

## Approximate process:

Linear SDE:

$$dx = (-\alpha x + \beta)dt + \sigma dW$$

PDF:

$$Q(x) \sim N(x|m, S) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi S}} e^{-(x-m)^T S^{-1}(x-m)}$$

Mean and covariance:

$$\dot{m}(t) = -\alpha(t)m(t) + \beta(t)$$

$$\dot{S}(t) = -\alpha(t)S(t) - S(t)\alpha(t)^T + \sigma^2$$

# Kullback -Leibler divergence

KL divergence (Archambeau et al 2008) :

$$KL[Q\|P] = \int_0^T (E_{sde}(t) + E_{obs}(t)) dt$$

$$E_{sde}(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle (f - f_L)^T \sigma^{-2} (f - f_L) \right\rangle_Q$$

$$E_{obs}(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \left\langle (y_n - x_n)^T R_n^{-1} (y_n - x_n) \right\rangle_Q$$

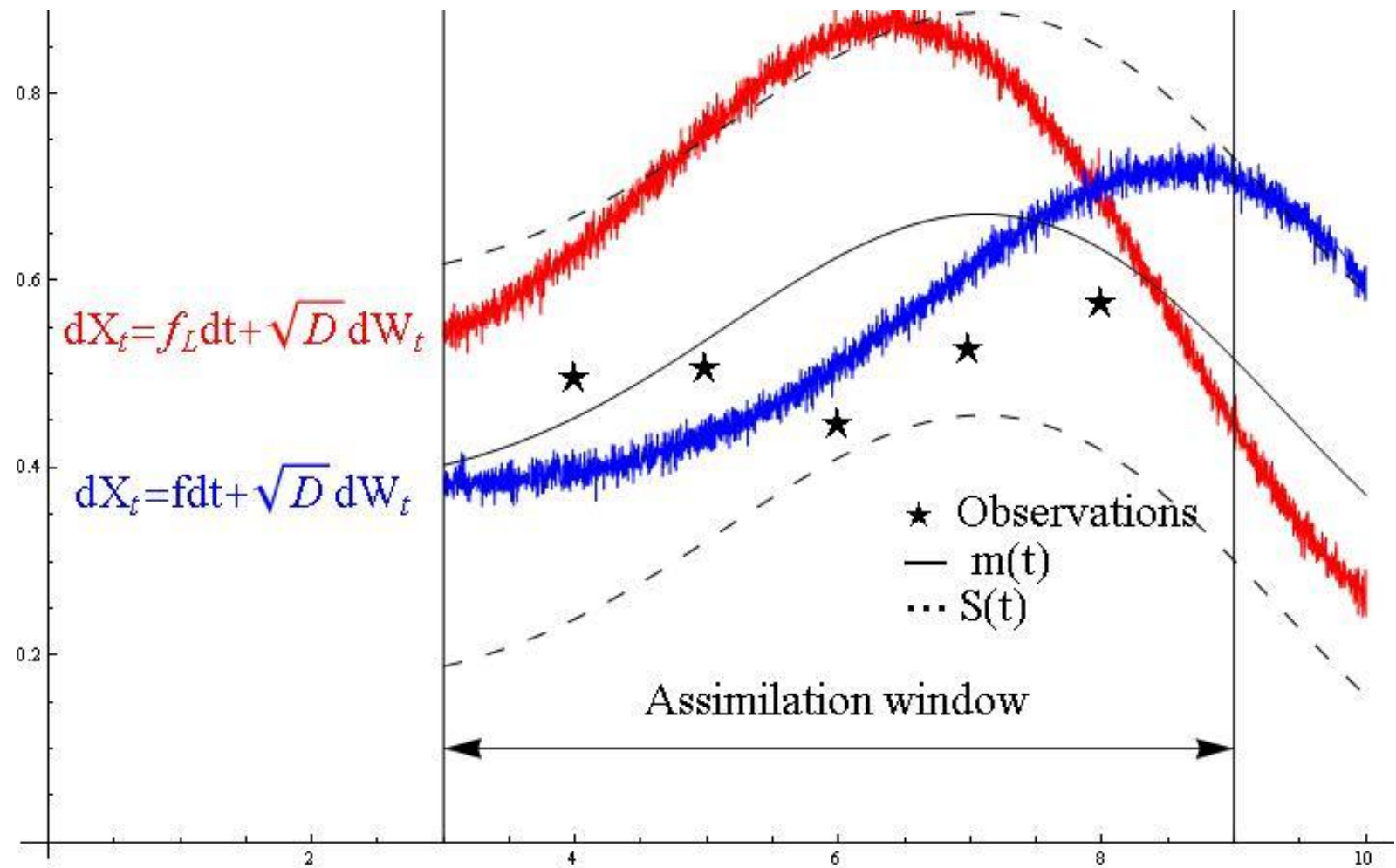


Figure. Schematic view of VGPA framework.

# Hamiltonian formulation of VGPA



$$H = -E_{sde} - E_{obs} + \lambda(-\alpha m + \beta) + \Psi(-\alpha S - S^T \alpha + \sigma)$$

$$\dot{m}(t) = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \lambda} = -\alpha(t)m(t) + \beta(t)$$

$$\dot{S}(t) = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \Psi} = -\alpha(t)S(t) + S(t)\alpha(t)^T + \sigma^2$$

$$\dot{\lambda}(t) = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial m} = \nabla_m E_{sde}(t) + \nabla_m E_{obs}(t) + \lambda(t)\alpha(t)$$

$$\dot{\Psi}(t) = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial S} = \nabla_S E_{sde}(t) + \nabla_S E_{obs}(t) + 2\Psi(t)\alpha(t)$$

$$\nabla_\alpha H = 0$$

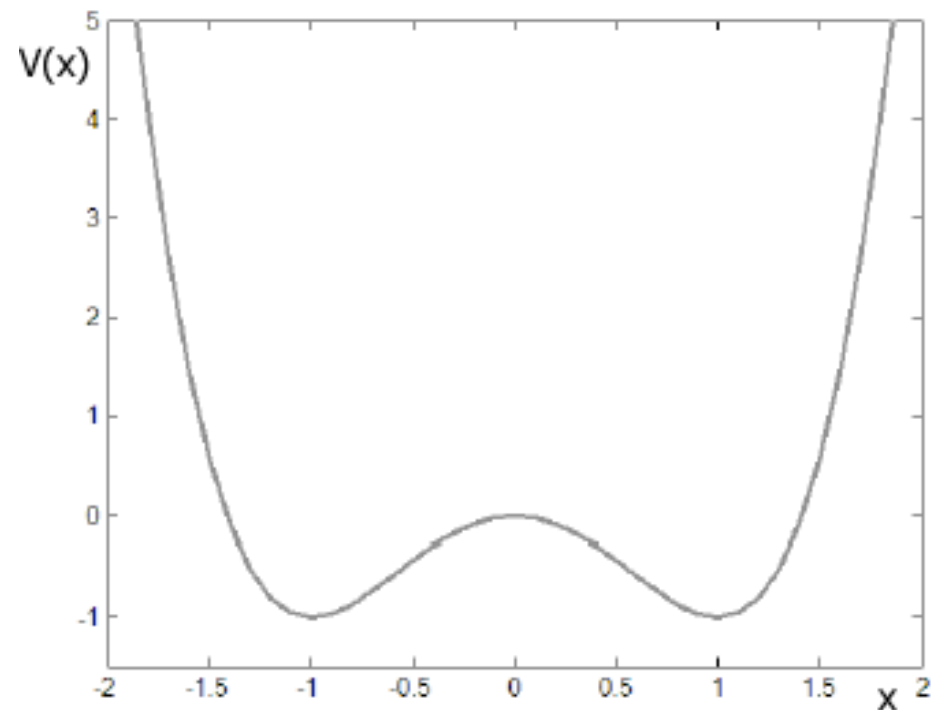
$$\nabla_\beta H = 0$$

## Algorithm

1. Initialize  $\alpha_0$ ,  $\beta_0$ ,  $m_0$  and  $S_0$
2. Run model forward for  $m$  and  $S$ .
3. Calculate  $E_{sde}$  and  $E_{obs}$ .
4. Run adjoint system backwards for  $\lambda$  and  $\Psi$ .
5. Using conjugate gradient, update  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ .
6. Calculate  $KL[Q||P]$ .
7. Repeat steps 2-6 until required accuracy is reached.

# Double-well model with noise

$$dx = (4x - 4x^3)dt + \sigma dW$$





## Double-well model with noise



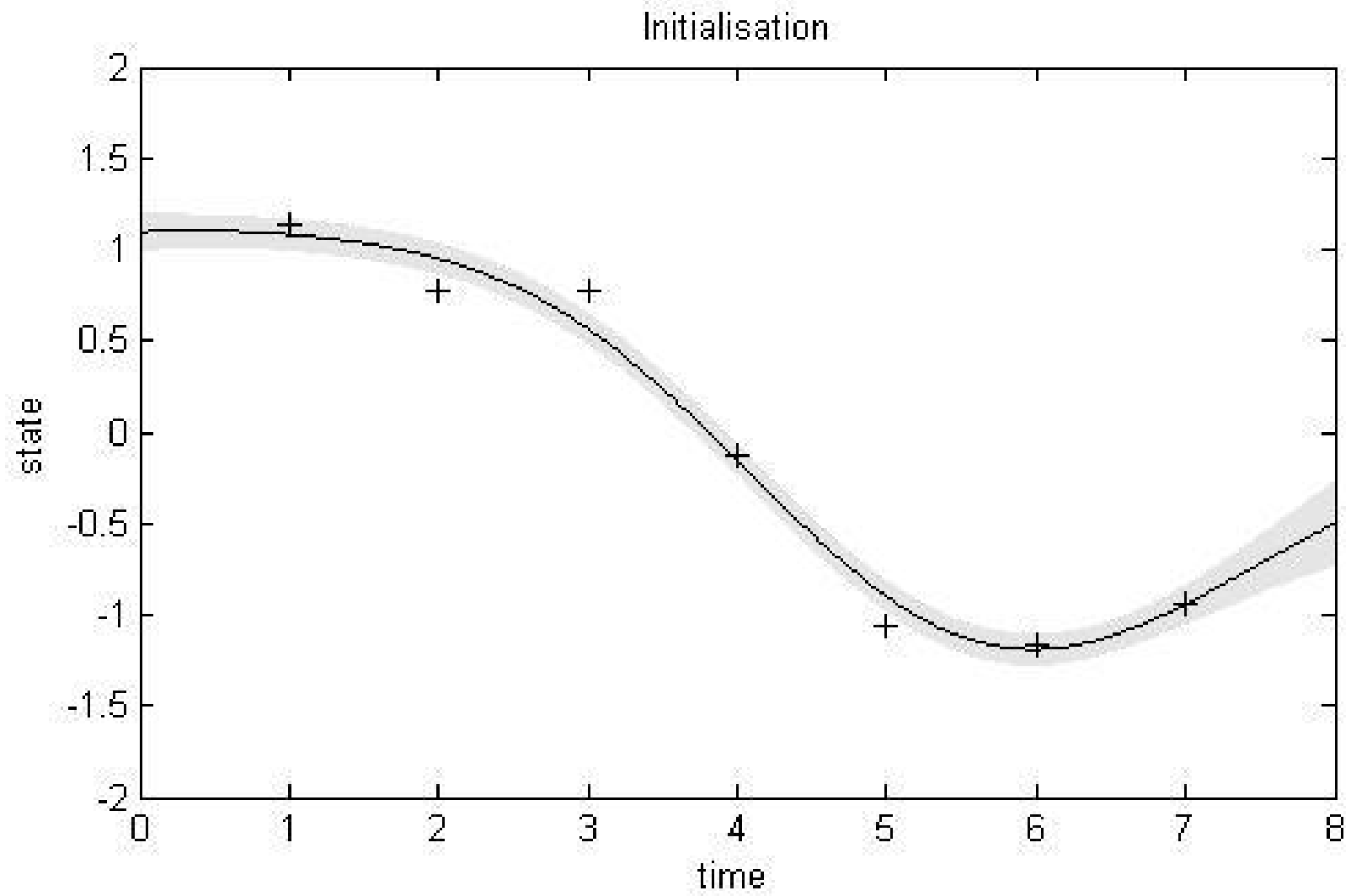
$$H = -E_{sde} - E_{obs} - \lambda(-\alpha m + \beta) - \Psi(-2\alpha S + \sigma^2)$$

$$\dot{m} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \alpha}, \quad \dot{S} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \Psi} \quad (\text{model})$$

$$\dot{\alpha} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial m}, \quad \dot{\Psi} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial S} \quad (\text{adjoint})$$

$$E_{sde} = (2\sigma^2)^{-1} (16(m^6 + 15m^4 S + 45m^2 S^2 + 15S^3) - 8(\alpha + 4)(m^4 + 6m^2 S + 3S^2) + (\alpha + 4)^2 (m^2 + S) + 8\beta(m^3 + 3mS) - 2\beta(\alpha + 4)m + \beta^2)$$

$$E_{obs} = (2R)^{-1} (y_n^2 - y_n m + S + m^2)$$



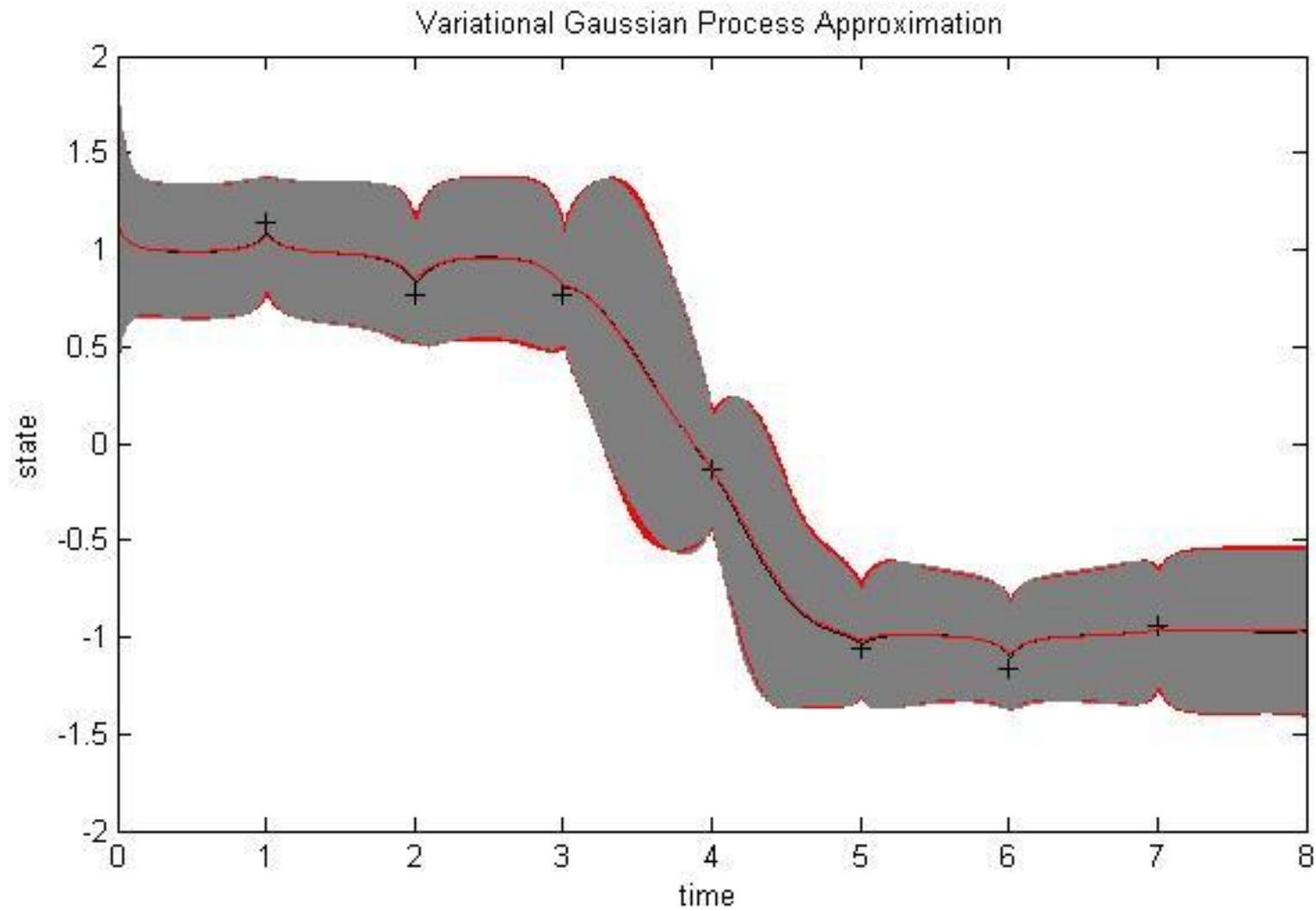


Figure.  $R = 0.01$ ,  $\sigma=0.5$ .

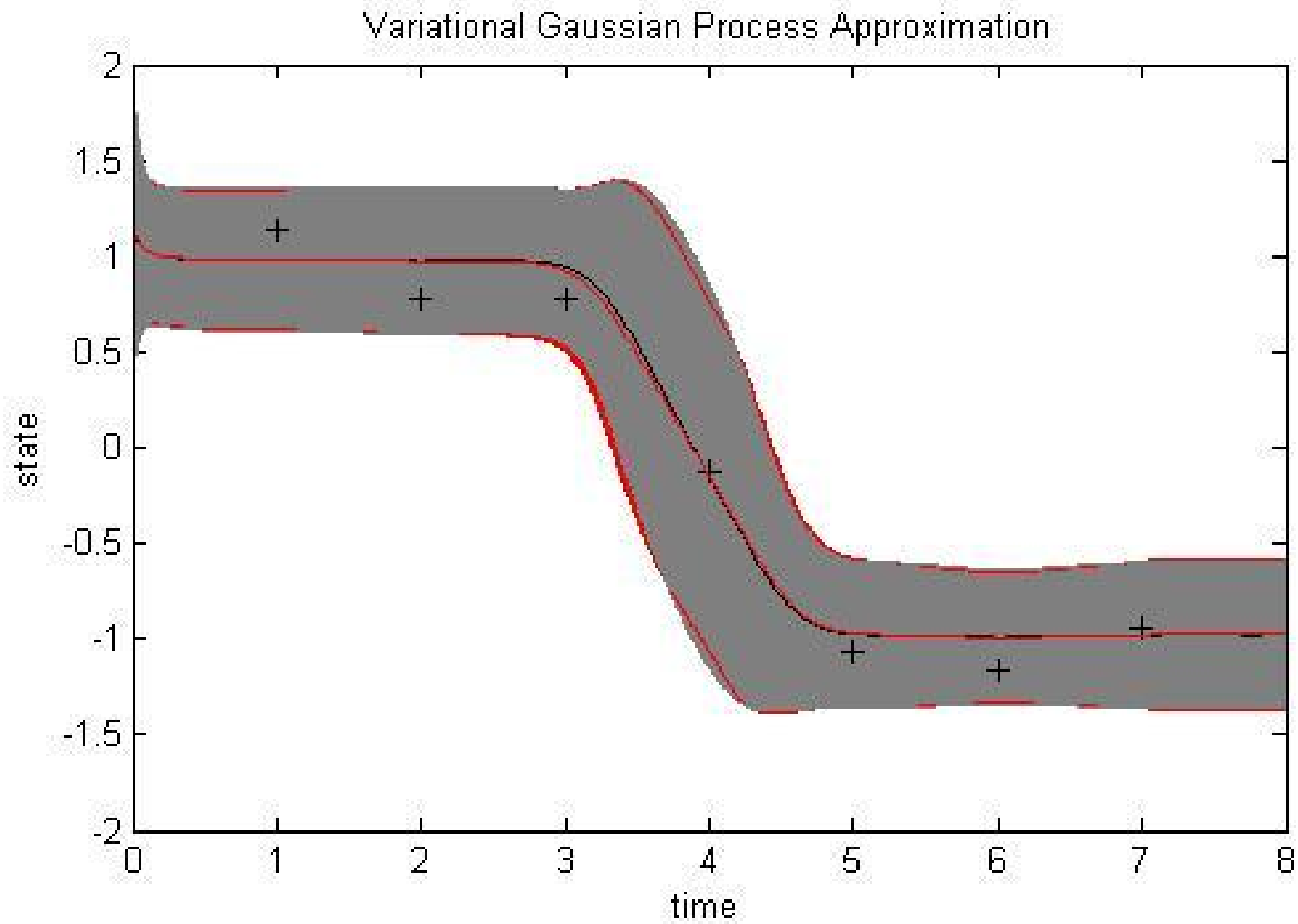
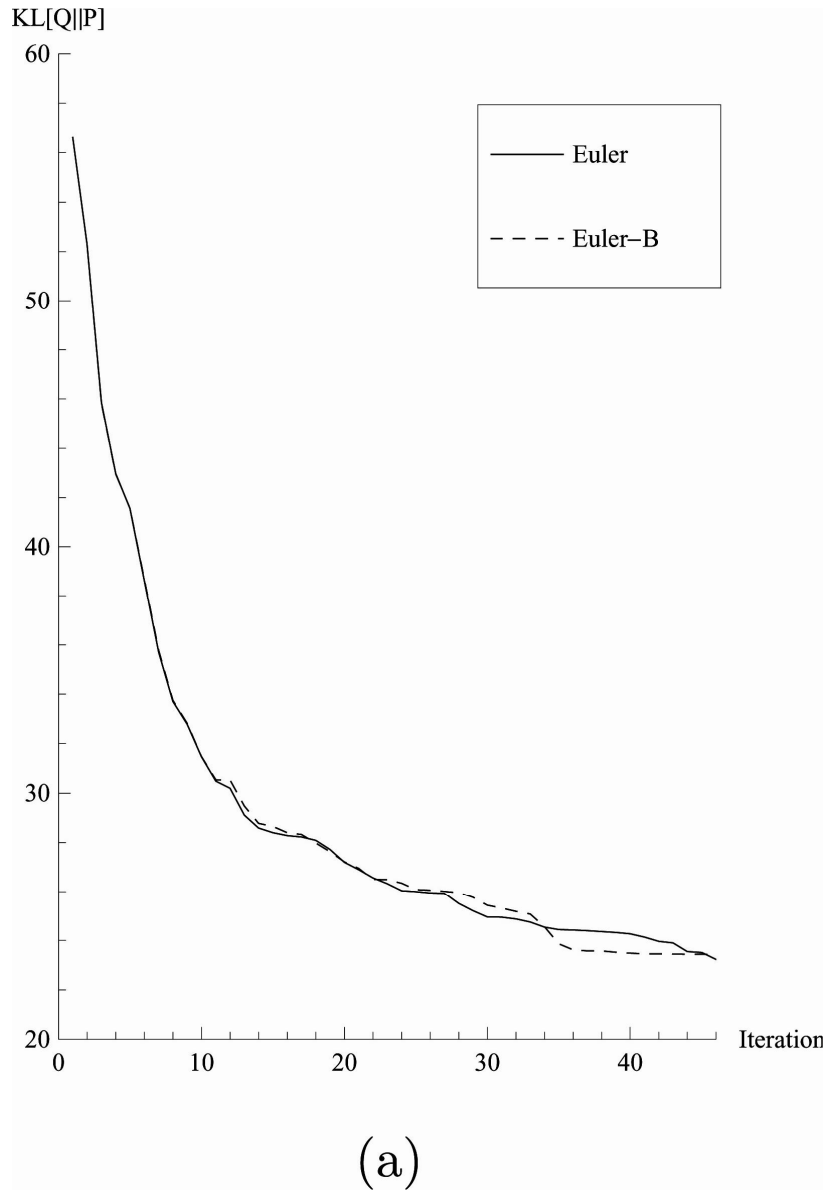
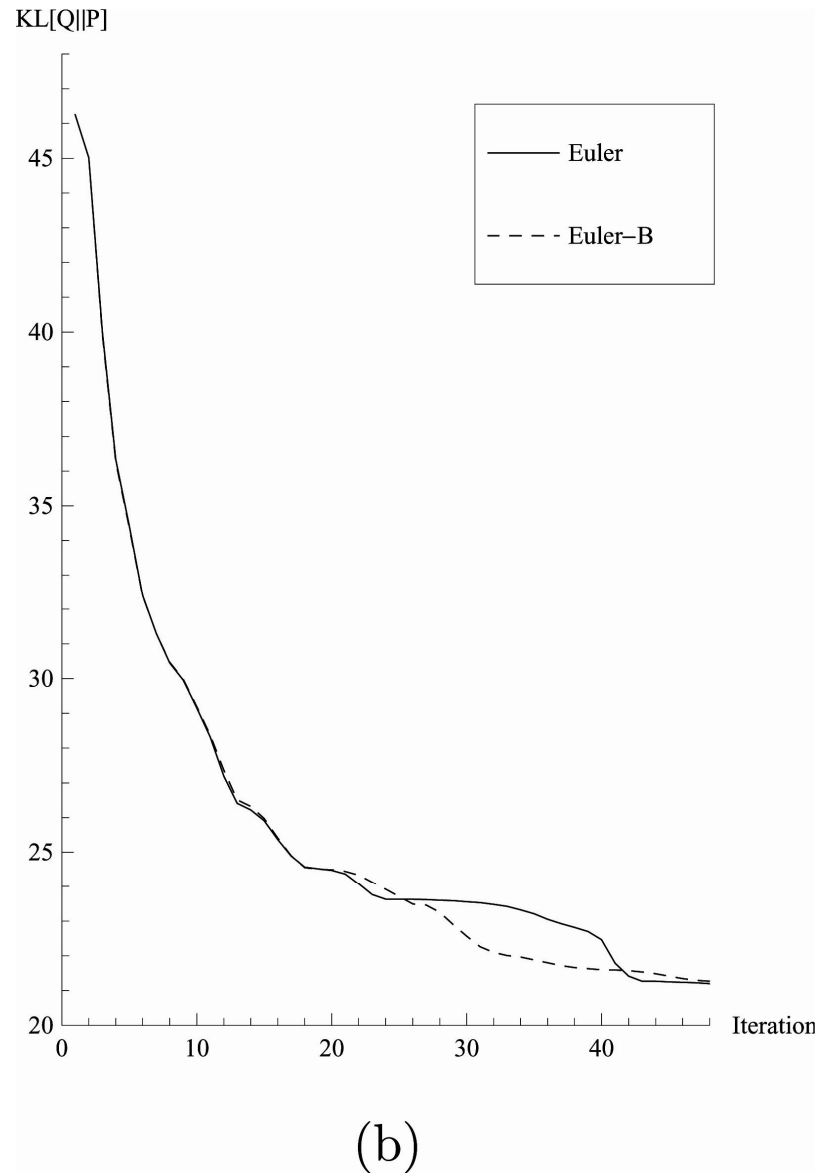


Figure.  $R = 1$ ,  $\sigma=0.5$ .

# Double-well model



(a)



(b)

Figure. (a)  $R = 0.01$ , (b)  $R = 0.04$ .

# Double-well model

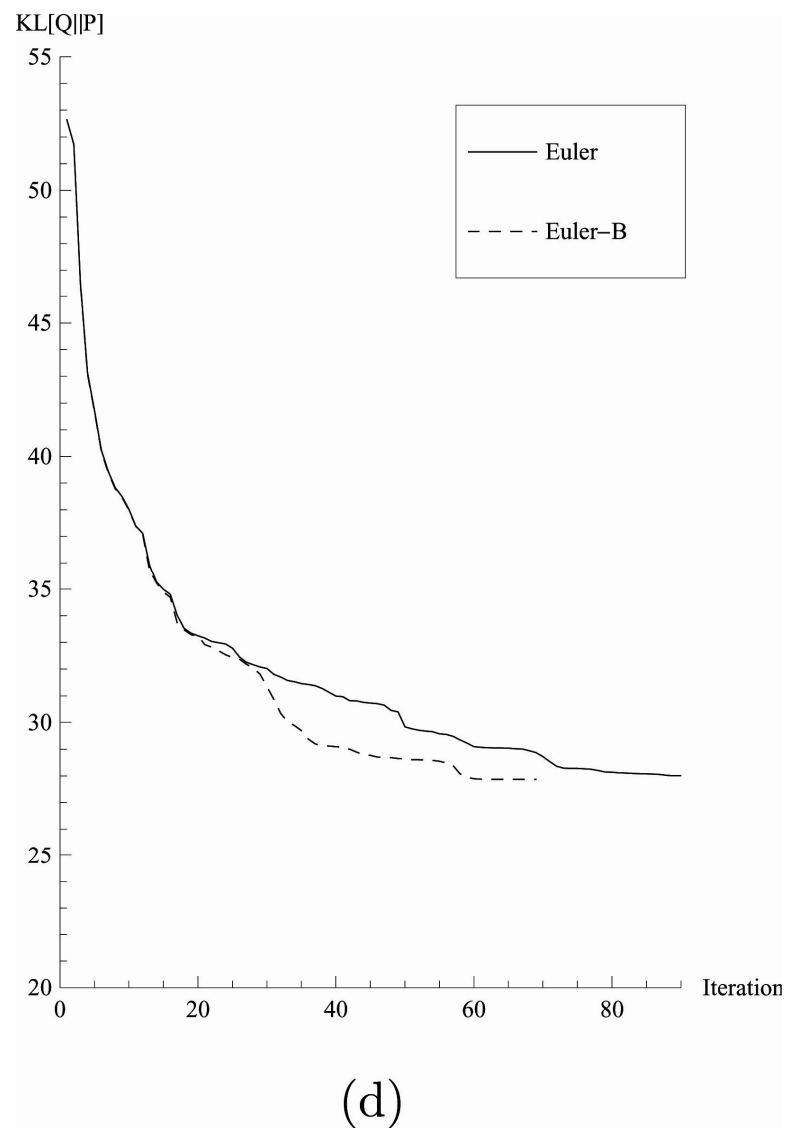
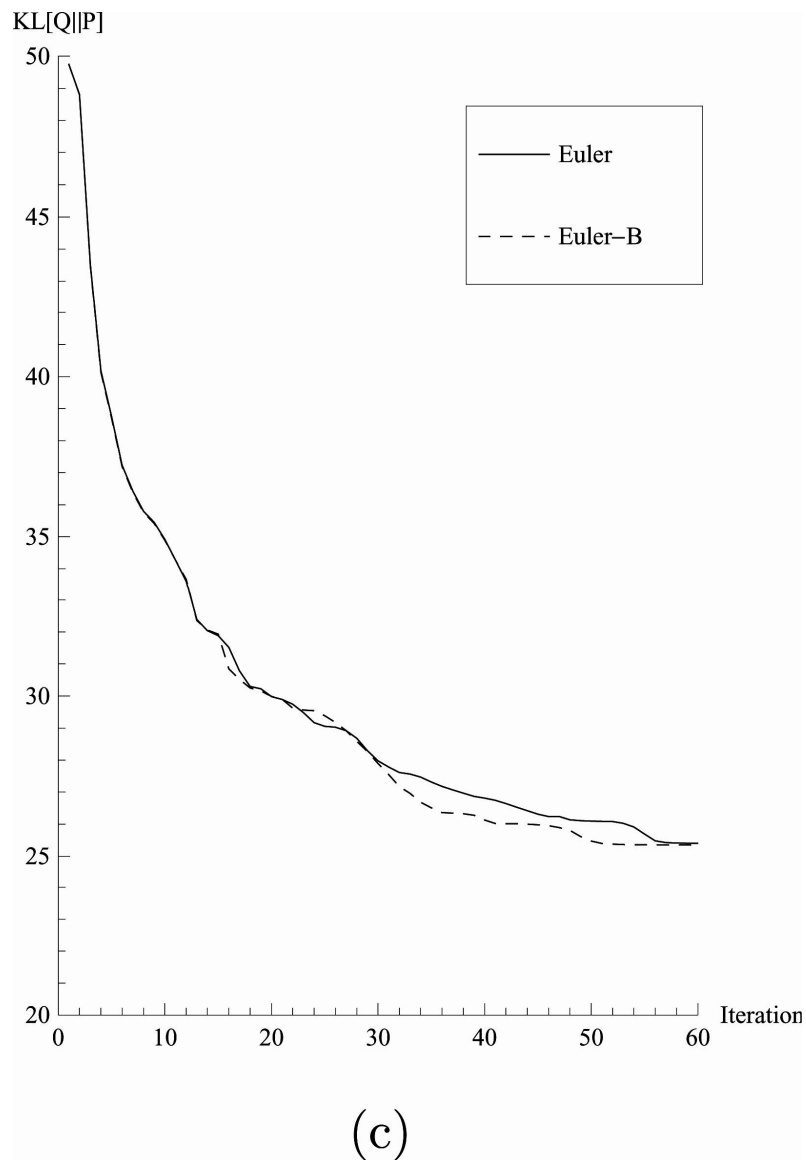


Figure. (c)  $R = 0.4$ , (d)  $R = 1.0$ .

# Conclusions



- We have shown how symplectic methods may be applied to 4DVAR
- We have studied the application of these methods to Variational Gaussian Process Approximation to stochastic dynamical systems
- We have shown that symplectic Euler-B performed better than non-symplectic Euler scheme in tracking the true state of the system in the presence of the measurement noise for stochastically driven double well potential model.