

Adaptive methods for problems with infinitely many parameters and their computational complexity

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Nonlinear Approximation for High-Dimensional Problems
Workshop in honour of Albert Cohen

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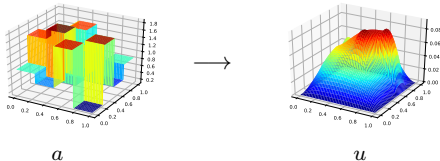


Parameter-dependent PDEs: Find $u = u(a) \in V$ such that $\mathcal{P}(a; u) = 0$, $a \in \mathcal{A}$

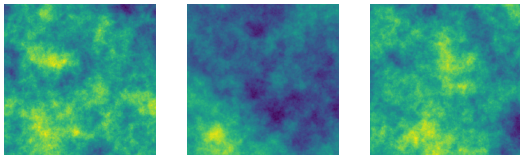
Elliptic model problem: $u \in V = H_0^1(D)$, $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, such that

$$-\nabla \cdot (a \nabla u) = f \text{ in } D, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial D$$

- **Model order reduction:**
efficient approximation
of $a \mapsto u(a)$



- **Uncertainty quantification:**
probability measure on \mathcal{A} modelling uncertainty in a ,
extract information on distribution of $u(a)$



Coefficient parametrizations: for $y \in Y$, find $u(y) \in V = H_0^1(D)$ such that

$$\int_D a(y) \nabla u(y) \cdot \nabla v \, dx = \int_D f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in V$$

► **Piecewise constant model case:** with partition $\{D_i\}$ of D , for $y \in Y = [-1, 1]^P$,

$$a(y) = 1 + \theta \sum_{i=1}^P y_i \chi_{D_i}, \quad \theta \in (0, 1)$$

► **Affine parametrization** with $y \in Y = [-1, 1]^{\mathbb{N}}$,

$$a(y) = \bar{a} + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} y_j \psi_j, \quad \bar{a}, \psi_j \in L^\infty(D)$$

such that **(uniform ellipticity)**: $0 < r \leq a(y) \leq R < \infty$ in D for all $y \in Y$.

► **Lognormal coefficients:** with $Y = \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$,

$$a(y) = \exp\left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}} y_j \psi_j\right), \quad y_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \psi_j \in L^\infty(D)$$

Aim: efficient approximations of $Y \ni y \mapsto u(y) \in V = H_0^1(D)$

Separation of variables

Rank- n expansions of parameter-dependent solution u ,

$$u(y) \approx u_n(y) = \sum_{j=1}^n v_j \phi_j(y), \quad v_j \in V, \phi_j: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- ▶ **Reduced basis methods:** solution snapshots $v_j := u(y^j)$, with $\phi_j(y)$ determined implicitly by Galerkin projection
- ▶ Approximation in $L^\infty(Y, V)$: **Kolmogorov n -widths** of $u(Y) \subset V$,

$$d_n(u(Y))_V := \inf_{\substack{V_n \subset V \\ \dim(V_n)=n}} \sup_{y \in Y} \min_{v \in V_n} \|u(y) - v\|_V$$

- ▶ Controlling errors in $L^\infty(Y, V)$ problematic for high-dimensional Y

- Approximation in $L^2(Y, V, \mu)$, μ probability measure: Hilbert-Schmidt decomposition / SVD,

$$u = \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j \hat{v}_j \otimes \hat{\phi}_j, \quad \{\hat{v}_j\}, \{\hat{\phi}_j\} \text{ orthonormal},$$

best approximation by truncation, where

$$\sqrt{\sum_{j>n} \sigma_j^2} \leq d_n(u(Y))_V.$$

- Upper bounds for σ_j by prescribing $\hat{\phi}_j$, e.g. product orthonormal polynomial expansions in $L^2(Y, V, \mu)$: with $\mathcal{I} = \{1, \dots, P\}$ or $\mathcal{I} = \mathbb{N}$,

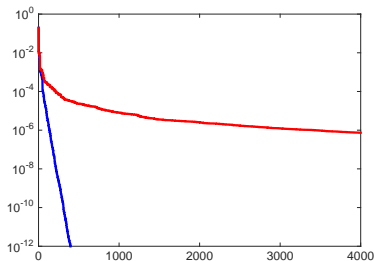
$$u(x, y) \approx \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda \subset \mathbb{N}_0^{\mathcal{I}}} u_{\nu}(x) L_{\nu}(y), \quad L_{\nu}(y) := \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} L_{\nu_i}(y_i),$$

then $\sigma_j \leq \|u_{\nu_j^*}\|_V$ with decreasing rearrangement $\|u_{\nu_j^*}\|_V$

Piecewise constant a on partition $\{D_i\}$, with $\bar{a} := 1$:

$$a(y) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^P y_i \psi_i, \quad \psi_i := \theta \chi_{D_i}, \quad \theta < 1.$$

		\cdots	D_{16}
		\ddots	\vdots
\vdots	\ddots		
D_1	\cdots		



red: ordered norms $\|u_\nu\|_V$ of Legendre coefficients in $u(y) = \sum_{\nu} u_{\nu} L_{\nu}(y)$,

blue: singular values σ_j in SVD $u(y) = \sum_j \sigma_j \hat{v}_j \hat{\phi}_j(y)$

Upper bounds for Kolmogorov widths (B., Cohen '17):

recombining linearly dependent terms in Taylor polynomial expansions in y

- ▶ Trivial: $d_n(u(Y)) \lesssim \exp(-|\ln \theta| n^{-1/P})$
- ▶ For piecewise constant parameters: when $\sum_{j=1}^P \psi_j = \theta \bar{a}$,

$$d_n(u(Y)) \lesssim \exp(-|\ln \theta| n^{-1/(P-1)})$$

- ▶ Using further spatial symmetries:

D_3	D_4
D_1	D_2

$P = 4$ with regular 2×2 checkerboard. Then for any $f \in V'$,

$$d_n(u(Y))_V \leq C \exp\left(-\frac{|\ln \theta|}{8} n\right).$$

(\leadsto Autio, Hannukainen '25)

Affinely parametrized linear elliptic PDEs

Parametric diffusion problem: for $y \in Y = [-1, 1]^{\mathbb{N}}$, find $u(y) \in V = H_0^1(D)$ such that

$$\int_D a(y) \nabla u(y) \cdot \nabla v \, dx = \langle f, v \rangle, \quad \forall v \in V,$$

$$\text{where } a(y) = \bar{a} + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} y_j \psi_j, \quad \bar{a}, \psi_j \in L^\infty(D)$$

Uniform ellipticity assumption:

$$0 < r \leq a(y) \leq R < \infty, \quad \text{in } D, \text{ for all } y \in Y.$$

Here: for an $r > 0$,

$$\sum_{j \geq 1} |\psi_j| \leq \bar{a} - r. \quad (\text{UEA})$$

Objective: Approximate u in $L^\infty(Y, V)$ or $L^2(Y, V, \mu)$, with μ uniform measure on Y .

$$\mathcal{F} := \{\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0^{\mathbb{N}} : \nu \text{ has finitely many nonzero entries}\}, \quad |\nu| := \sum_{j \geq 1} \nu_j, \quad \nu! := \prod_{j \geq 1} \nu_j!$$

Taylor expansion: $u = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} t_{\nu} y^{\nu}$ with $y^{\nu} = \prod_{j \geq 1} y_j^{\nu_j}$ and $t_{\nu} = \frac{1}{\nu!} \partial^{\nu} u(0) \in V$

Legendre expansion:

$$u = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} u_{\nu} L_{\nu}(y) \quad \text{with orthonormal basis } \left\{ L_{\nu}(y) := \prod_{j \geq 1} L_{\nu_j}(y_j) \right\}_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} \text{ of } L^2(Y, V, \mu)$$

Theorem (Cohen, DeVore, Schwab '11).

Assume that (UEA) holds and $(\|\psi_j\|_{L^{\infty}})_{j \geq 1} \in \ell^p(\mathbb{N})$ for a $p \in (0, 1)$, then $(\|t_{\nu}\|_V)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}}$ and $(\|u_{\nu}\|_V)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}}$ belong to $\ell^p(\mathcal{F})$.

Best n -term approximation: Take $\Lambda_{T,n}, \Lambda_{L,n} \subset \mathcal{F}$ corresponding to n largest coefficients,

$$\sup_y \left\| u(y) - \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{T,n}} t_{\nu} y^{\nu} \right\|_V \leq C n^{-\frac{1}{p}+1}, \quad \left\| u - \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{L,n}} u_{\nu} L_{\nu} \right\|_{L^2(U, V, \mu)} \leq C n^{-\frac{1}{p}+\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Basic idea: improved results for ψ_j with **spatial localization**, still with basic assumption

$$\sum_{j \geq 1} |\psi_j| \leq \bar{a} - r. \quad (\text{UEA})$$

Theorem (B., Cohen, Migliorati '17).

Let (UEA) hold and with $\rho_j > 1$, $j \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$\sum_{j \geq 1} \rho_j |\psi_j| \leq \bar{a} - s \quad \text{for some } s > 0. \quad (\text{UEA}^*)$$

Then

$$\sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} \rho^{2\nu} \|t_\nu\|_V^2 < \infty, \quad \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} \left(\prod_{j \geq 1} (2\nu_j + 1) \right)^{-1} \rho^{2\nu} \|u_\nu\|_V^2.$$

Corollary. Let $0 < p < 2$ and assume that for $q = q(p) := \frac{2p}{2-p}$, there exists a sequence $\rho = (\rho_j)_{j \geq 1}$ with $\rho_j > 1$ satisfying (UEA*) and $(\rho_j^{-1})_{j \geq 1} \in \ell^q(\mathbb{N})$. Then $(\|t_\nu\|_V)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}}$ and $(\|u_\nu\|_V)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}}$ belong to $\ell^p(\mathcal{F})$.

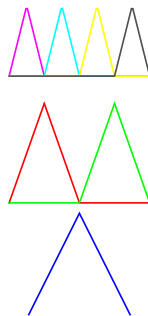
Wavelet-type parametrization

$y = (y_{\ell,m})_{\ell,m}$ with $y_{\ell,m} \sim \mathcal{U}(-1, 1)$ i.i.d., and a with affine parameterization,

$$a(y) = a_0 + \sum_{\ell,m} y_{\ell,m} \psi_{\ell,m},$$

where $\sup_{x \in D} \sum_m |\psi_{\ell,m}(x)| \lesssim 2^{-\alpha\ell}$ for all $\ell \geq 0$

\leadsto choose weights with $\rho_{\ell,m} \approx 2^{\beta\ell}$ with $\beta < \alpha$



Convergence of product Legendre expansions

Take $\Lambda_n \subset \mathcal{F}$ as indices of n largest $\|u_\nu\|_V$ in the expansion $u = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} u_\nu L_\nu$.

Then

$$\left\| u - \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_n} u_\nu L_\nu \right\|_{L^2(Y, V, \mu)} \lesssim n^{-s} \quad \text{for any } s < \frac{\alpha}{d}$$

Lognormal coefficients: $a(y) = \exp\left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}} y_j \psi_j\right)$, i.i.d. $y_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, $\psi_j \in L^\infty(D)$

► **product Hermite polynomial expansion** $u(y) = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} u_\nu H_\nu(y) \approx \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda \subset \mathcal{F}} u_\nu H_\nu(y)$

where $u_\nu \in V$, $H_\nu(y) = \prod_{j \geq 1} H_{\nu_j}(y_j)$ with univariate Hermite polynomials H_{ν_j}

Theorem (B., Cohen, DeVore, Migliorati '17). Let $0 < q < \infty$ and $0 < p < 2$ such that $\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{2}$. Assume there exists a positive sequence $\rho = (\rho_j)_{j \geq 1}$ such that

$$(\rho_j^{-1})_{j \geq 1} \in \ell^q(\mathbb{N}) \quad \text{und} \quad \sup_{x \in D} \sum_{j \geq 1} \rho_j |\psi_j(x)| < \infty.$$

Then $(\|u_\nu\|_V)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} \in \ell^p(\mathcal{F})$.

► For $\{\psi_j\}$ with multilevel structure such that $\|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim 2^{-\alpha \ell(j)}$,

$$\left\| u - \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_n} u_\nu H_\nu \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}, V, \bigotimes_{j \geq 1} \mathcal{N}(0, 1))} \lesssim n^{-s} \quad \text{for any } s < \frac{\alpha}{d}$$

Gaussian random fields

$D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, centered Gaussian random field $(b(x))_{x \in D}$ with covariance function

$$\mathbb{E}(b(x)b(x')) = K(x, x'), \quad x, x' \in D.$$

Given K , find $\{\psi_j\}$ such that
$$b(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} y_j \psi_j(x), \quad y_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \text{ i.i.d.}$$

- **Classical choice:** Karhunen-Loève decomposition,

$$b(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_j} \varphi_j(x) y_j \quad \text{with } y_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \text{ i.i.d.}$$

with (λ_j, φ_j) eigenpairs of covariance operator, where φ_j is L^2 -orthonormal

- **Not the only option!** Precise criterion (Luschgy, Pagès '09):

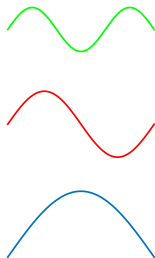
ψ_j provide an expansion with y_j i.i.d. precisely when ψ_j Parseval frame in reproducing kernel Hilbert space of K

Expansions of the Brownian bridge

$K(s, t) = \min\{s, t\} - st$, with RKHS $H_0^1(0, 1)$,
series $b = \sum_{j \geq 1} y_j \psi_j$ on $D = (0, 1)$:

► **KL expansion:** $\psi_j(x) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi j} \sin(\pi j x)$,

$\|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty} \sim j^{-1}$ with $|\text{supp } \psi_j| = 1$.



► **Lévy-Ciesielski representation:**

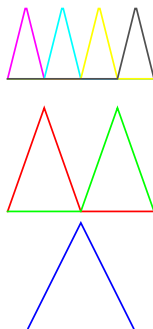
using Schauder basis (primitives of Haar system)

$$\psi_{\ell, m}(x) := 2^{-\ell/2} \psi(2^\ell x - m), \quad m = 0, \dots, 2^\ell - 1, \ell \geq$$

where $\psi(x) := \frac{1}{2}(1 - |2x - 1|)_+$.

Ordering from coarse to fine, $\psi_j := \psi_{\ell, m}$ for $j = 2^\ell + m$,

$\|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty} \sim j^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ and $|\text{supp } \psi_j| \sim j^{-1}$.



Gaussian random fields

$D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, centered and **stationary** Gaussian random field $(b(x))_{x \in D}$ with covariance function

$$\mathbb{E}(b(x)b(x')) = K(x, x') = k(x - x'), \quad x, x' \in D.$$

► Matérn covariances

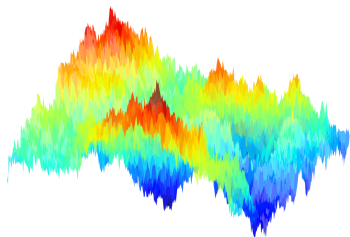
$$k(x) = \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2\nu}|x|}{\lambda} \right)^\nu K_\nu \left(\frac{\sqrt{2\nu}|x|}{\lambda} \right), \quad \nu, \lambda > 0,$$

where K_ν is the modified Bessel function of the second kind, Fourier transform:

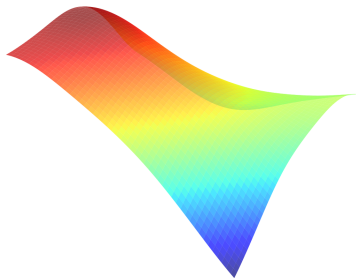
$$\hat{k}(\omega) = c_{\nu,\lambda} \left(\frac{2\nu}{\lambda^2} + |\omega|^2 \right)^{-(\nu+d/2)}, \quad c_{\nu,\lambda} := \frac{2^d \pi^{d/2} \Gamma(\nu + d/2) (2\nu)^\nu}{\Gamma(\nu) \lambda^{2\nu}}.$$

(Exponential covariance $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$, Gaussian covariance $\nu \rightarrow \infty$)

Matérn samples



$$\nu = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$\nu = 4$$

Periodization of stationary Gaussian random fields

- ▶ **Stationary periodic Gaussian random fields** on a torus \mathbb{T} with periodic covariance function: KL eigenfunctions are **Fourier exponentials** φ_j^p on \mathbb{T}
- ▶ **Periodization** (B., Cohen, Migliorati '17): periodize k with suitable cutoff function ϕ ,

$$k_p(x) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d} (k\phi)(x + 2\gamma n),$$

positive semidefinite for sufficiently large γ

if $(1 + |\omega|^2)^{-s} \lesssim \widehat{k}(\omega) \lesssim (1 + |\omega|^2)^{-r}, \quad 0 < r \leq s$

and $\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{|x| > R} |\partial^\alpha k| dx = 0 \quad \text{for } |\alpha| \leq 2[s],$

in particular all Matérn covariances¹

(Related results in special cases: Stein '02, Gneiting et al. '06, Helgason et al. '14, ...)

- ▶ Leads to an improved version of sampling by **circulant embedding**²

¹M. Bachmayr, A. Cohen, and G. Migliorati, *Representations of Gaussian random fields and approximation of elliptic PDEs with lognormal coefficients*, JFAA, 2018

²M. Bachmayr, I. G. Graham, V. K. Nguyen, and R. Scheichl, *Unified analysis of periodization-based sampling methods for Matérn covariances*, SINUM, 2020

Construction of wavelet expansions

- ▶ **Given:** centered stationary Gaussian random field on domain D with covariance function k
- ▶ **Embed D into a torus \mathbb{T} ,** periodized random field with covariance k_p
- ▶ Start from periodic $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ -orthonormal Meyer wavelets

$$\Psi_{\ell,m} = \sum_j c_j^{(\ell,m)} \varphi_j^p,$$

with localized supports on \mathbb{T} .

- ▶ Apply **square root of the covariance operator** on \mathbb{T} ,

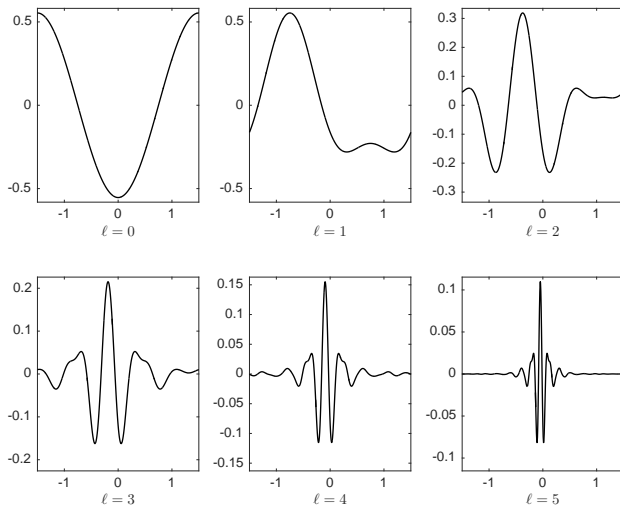
$$\psi_{\ell,m}^p = \sum_j \sqrt{\lambda_j^p} c_j^{(\ell,m)} \varphi_j^p,$$

$\psi_{\ell,m} := \psi_{\ell,m}^p|_D$ Parseval frame of the reproducing kernel Hilbert space of k .

- ▶ **Verify that also $\psi_{\ell,m}$ are still localized,** under additional assumptions on \widehat{k} satisfied by Matérn covariance (decay of higher-order derivatives of $\widehat{k\phi}^{1/2}$)

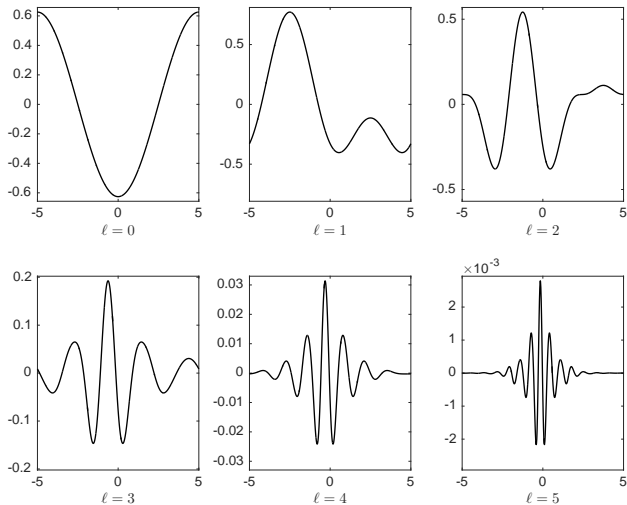
Matérn wavelets, 1D case on $D = [-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$

Matérn covariance with $\lambda = 1$, $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$: plots of ψ_ℓ , where $\psi_{\ell,m}(x) = \psi_\ell(2^\ell x - m)$



Matérn wavelets, 1D case on $D = [-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$

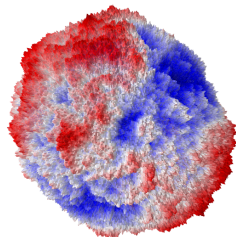
Matérn covariance with $\lambda = 1$, $\nu = 4$: plots of ψ_ℓ , where $\psi_{\ell,m}(x) = \psi_\ell(2^\ell x - m)$



Conclusion: For $a = \exp(b)$, Matérn-type b with realizations in $C^{0,\beta}(\overline{D})$ for $\beta < \alpha$ in **wavelet representation**, where $\|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim 2^{-\alpha \ell(j)}$,

$$\left\| u - \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_n} u_\nu H_\nu \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^N, V, \bigotimes_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{N}(0,1))} \lesssim n^{-s} \quad \text{for any } s < \frac{\alpha}{d}$$

- Analogous representations for isotropic random fields on the sphere³: based on spherical needlets (Narcowich, Petrushev, Ward '06)
- Work in progress: more general smooth surfaces



³M. Bachmayr and A. Djurdjevac, *Multilevel representations of isotropic Gaussian random fields on the sphere*, IMA JNA, 2022

Fully discrete approximability

For each $\nu \in \mathcal{F}$, choose $V_\nu \subset V$ with $N_\nu := \dim V_\nu < \infty$ and take approximations u_N from

$$\mathcal{V}_N = \left\{ \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} v_\nu L_\nu : v_\nu \in V_\nu \right\}, \quad N = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} N_\nu$$

For affine case: $a(y) = \bar{a} + \sum_{\ell, m} y_{\ell, m} \psi_{\ell, m}$ uniformly elliptic, $Y \simeq [-1, 1]^N$

Adaptive approximations ($d \geq 2$)

(B., Cohen, Dũng, Schwab '17)

Let $d \geq 2$ and $\alpha \in (0, 1]$, let a be given in multilevel expansion with

$$\sup_D \sum_m |\psi_{\ell, m}| \lesssim 2^{-\alpha \ell}, \quad \sup_D \sum_m |\nabla \psi_{\ell, m}| \lesssim 2^{-(\alpha-1)\ell} \quad \text{for all } \ell \geq 0,$$

let D be convex or smooth and let $f \in L^2(D)$. Then for each N there exist $(V_\nu)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}}$ such that for the corresponding \mathcal{V}_N ,

$$\inf_{u_N \in \mathcal{V}_N} \|u - u_N\|_{L^2(Y, V, \mu)} \lesssim N^{-s} \quad \text{for any } s < \frac{\alpha}{d}.$$

Space-parameter adaptivity

- ▶ How to choose $(V_\nu)_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}}$, total number of degrees of freedom $N = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} N_\nu$?
- ▶ Adaptive wavelet approximation for each ν :

$\{\Psi_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \mathcal{S}}$ wavelet Riesz basis of $V = H_0^1(D)$,

$$\left\| \sum_{\lambda, \nu} \mathbf{v}_{\lambda, \nu} \Psi_\lambda \otimes L_\nu \right\|_{L^2(Y, V, \mu)}^2 \approx \sum_{\lambda, \nu} |\mathbf{v}_{\lambda, \nu}|^2, \quad \mathbf{v} \in \ell^2(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{F})$$

$$\leadsto \text{expansion} \quad u = \sum_{\lambda, \nu} \mathbf{u}_{\lambda, \nu} \Psi_\lambda \otimes L_\nu$$

- ▶ Best N -term approximation by keeping (λ, ν) with N largest $|\mathbf{u}_{\lambda, \nu}|$:

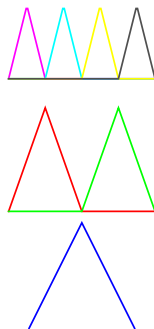
$$\|u - u_{[N]}\|_{L^2(Y, V, \mu)} \approx \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{[N]}\|_{\ell_2} \leq N^{-s} \|\mathbf{u}\|_{\mathcal{A}^s} \quad \leadsto \quad N(\varepsilon) = \|\mathbf{u}\|_{\mathcal{A}^s}^{\frac{1}{s}} \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{s}}$$

Example

Multiscale representation in $d = 1$, with $\alpha = 1$,

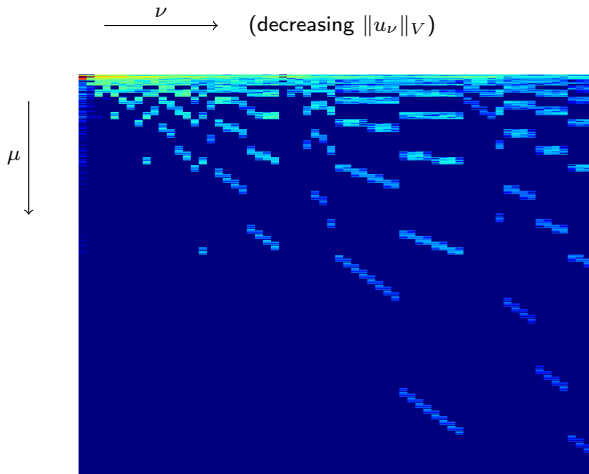
$$\psi_{\ell,m}(x) := c2^{-\ell}\psi(2^\ell x - m)$$

$$a(y) = 1 + \sum_{\ell,m} y_{\ell,m} \psi_{\ell,m} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad u(y) = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} u_\nu L_\nu(y)$$



$d = 1$: $a(y) = \bar{a} + \sum_{j \geq 1} y_j \psi_j$, ψ_j hierarchical hat functions, $\|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim 2^{-\alpha \ell(j)}$

Values $|\mathbf{u}_{\mu,\nu}|$ (for $\alpha = 1$):



Stochastic Galerkin discretization: $u_N \in \mathcal{V}_N$ such that

$$\int_{[-1,1]^{\mathbb{N}}} \int_D a \nabla u_N \cdot \nabla v \, dx \, d\mu(y) = \int_{[-1,1]^{\mathbb{N}}} \langle f, v \rangle \, d\mu(y), \quad \text{for all } v \in \mathcal{V}_N$$

Operator representation w.r.t. spatial-parametric Riesz basis $\{\Psi_\lambda \otimes L_\nu\}_{\lambda \in \mathcal{S}, \nu \in \mathcal{F}}$,

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{j \geq 0} \mathbf{A}_j \otimes \mathbf{M}_j : \ell^2(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow \ell^2(\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{F})$$

where

$$\mathbf{A}_0 = \left(\int_D \bar{a} \nabla \Psi_{\lambda'} \cdot \nabla \Psi_\lambda \right)_{\lambda, \lambda' \in \mathcal{S}}, \quad \mathbf{M}_0 = (\delta_{\nu, \nu'})_{\nu, \nu' \in \mathcal{F}}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_j = \left(\int_D \psi_j \nabla \Psi_{\lambda'} \cdot \nabla \Psi_\lambda \right)_{\lambda, \lambda' \in \mathcal{S}}, \quad \mathbf{M}_j = \left(\int_U y_j L_\nu(y) L_{\nu'}(y) \, d\mu(y) \right)_{\nu, \nu' \in \mathcal{F}}, \quad j \geq 1.$$

\leadsto well-conditioned sequence-space formulation $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$.

Standard adaptive Galerkin scheme

(Cohen, Dahmen, DeVore '01; Gantumur, Harbrecht, Stevenson '07)

Given $\Lambda^k \subset \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{F}$, compute Galerkin solution \mathbf{u}_k on Λ^k , **approximate** $\mathbf{r}_k = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_k - \mathbf{f}$, and with fixed $\mu \in (0, 1)$ set

$$\Lambda^{k+1} = \Lambda^k \cup \hat{\Lambda} \quad \text{with } \hat{\Lambda} \text{ of minimal size such that } \|\mathbf{r}|_{\hat{\Lambda}}\|_{\ell^2} \geq \mu \|\mathbf{r}\|_{\ell^2}$$

Direct residual approximation

- ▶ Residual approximation for stochastic Galerkin systems can be done based on standard compression techniques for \mathbf{A} (using s^* -compressibility)
- ▶ For ψ_j with global supports, rates generally not optimal (Gittelsohn '13, '14)
- ▶ Observation⁴ for $\{\psi_j\}$ with multilevel structure such that $\|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim 2^{-\alpha \ell(j)}$ (ordered by level): $\mathbf{A} = \sum_{j \geq 0} \mathbf{A}_j \otimes \mathbf{M}_j$ satisfies

$$\left\| \sum_{j > M} \mathbf{A}_j \otimes \mathbf{M}_j \right\| \lesssim M^{-\frac{\alpha}{d}}.$$

- ▶ Compression based on approximations $\sum_{j \leq M} \mathbf{A}_j \otimes \mathbf{M}_j$ combined with spatial s^* -compressibility of the \mathbf{A}_j : **sub-optimal rates**

$$s^* = \frac{t}{t+d} \frac{\alpha}{d}$$

when $\psi_j \nabla \Psi_\lambda \in H^t$.

⁴M. Bachmayr, A. Cohen, and W. Dahmen, *Parametric PDEs: Sparse or low-rank approximations?*, IMA JNA, 2018

Optimal solver using wavelets

- ▶ Iteratively refined stochastic Galerkin discretizations with spatial approximation by H^2 -regular spline wavelets, piecewise polynomial (approximations of) ψ_j

New residual approximation strategy:

- ▶ Adaptive semidiscrete operator compression in parametric variables, based on $\sum_{j \leq M} \mathbf{A}_j \otimes \mathbf{M}_j$,
- ▶ Spatial error estimation using tree index sets and piecewise polynomial structure without adaptive operator compression (Stevenson '14; Binev '18)

Optimality (B., Voulis '22)

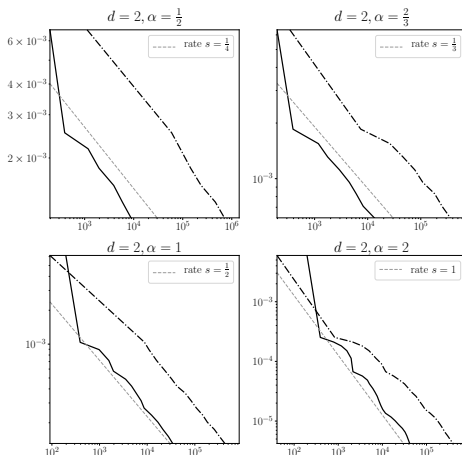
If the best approximation to u converges at rate $s < \frac{\alpha}{d}$ then for each $\varepsilon > 0$, the adaptive scheme with appropriately chosen parameters finds an approximation u_ε with $\|u - u_\varepsilon\|_V \leq \varepsilon$ using $\mathcal{O}(1 + \varepsilon^{-\frac{1}{s}}(1 + |\log \varepsilon|))$ operations.

(see also Bespalov, Praetorius, Ruggeri '21: optimal cardinality under saturation assumption)

Numerical experiments: wavelets, $d = 2$

(B., Voulis '22)

$D = (0, 1)^2$, $\psi_{\ell, m}$ hierarchical piecewise linear hat functions with $\|\psi_{\ell, m}\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim 2^{-\alpha\ell}$,
 spatial discretization by C^1 piecewise polynomial DGH multiwavelets of order 6;
 expected fully discrete rate $\frac{\alpha}{2}$.



Residual estimates as a function of #dof (—) and of computation time (--)

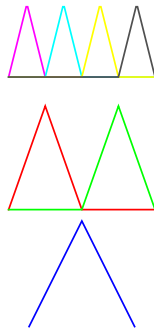
Finite element approximations in space?

Aim: $u(y) = \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda} u_{\nu} L_{\nu}(y)$ with $u_{\nu} \in \mathbb{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_{\nu}) \cap V$, **separate mesh \mathcal{T}_{ν}** for each ν

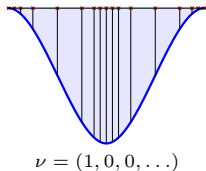
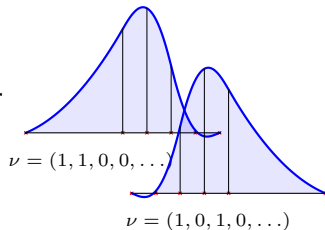
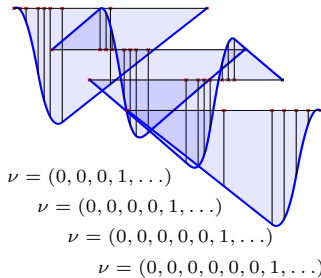
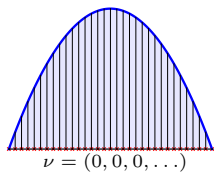
Same example with $d = 1$, $\alpha = 1$,

$$\psi_{\ell,m}(x) := c2^{-\ell}\psi(2^{\ell}x - m)$$

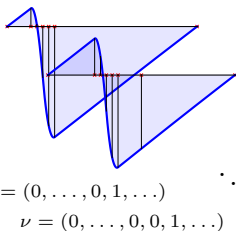
$$a(y) = 1 + \sum_{\ell,m} y_{\ell,m} \psi_{\ell,m} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad u(y) = \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{F}} u_{\nu} L_{\nu}(y)$$



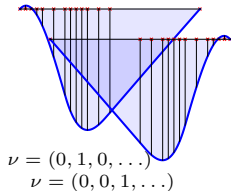
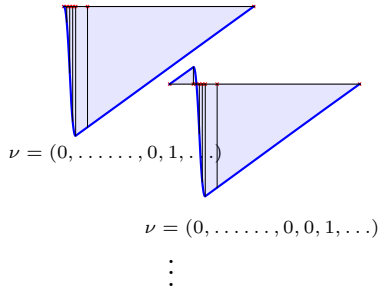
Best (dyadic) grids for piecewise linear approximations of u_ν :



\ddots



\ddots



Towards an optimal adaptive finite element solver

- ▶ Piecewise affine linear **finite element approximation** on independent adaptive mesh for each u_ν , refinement by standard **newest vertex bisection**
- ▶ Again using adaptive operator compression in the stochastic variables.
- ▶ Standard finite element error estimation strategies (e.g., residual estimators) not applicable due to **interactions between meshes**, **lack of Galerkin orthogonality** (see also Cohen, DeVore, Nochetto '12)
- ▶ Instead use **BPX frame coefficients** (cf. Harbrecht, Schneider '16): for $r \in V' = H^{-1}(D)$,

$$\|r\|_{V'}^2 \approx \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{N}_j} |\langle r, \varphi_{j,k} \rangle|^2$$

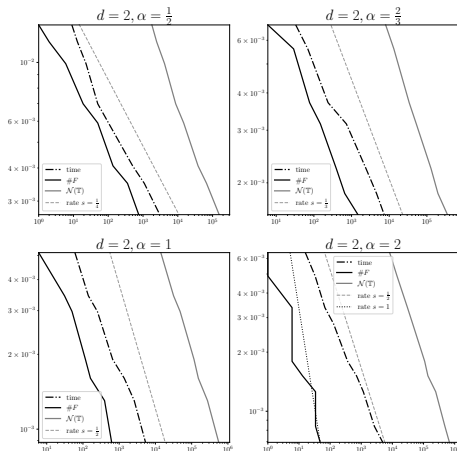
with $\varphi_{j,k}$ piecewise linear hat function on level j (with $\|\varphi_{j,k}\|_{H_0^1(D)} \approx 1$)

- ▶ Choose refinements by tree-based selection of frame-based indicators (Binev '18)

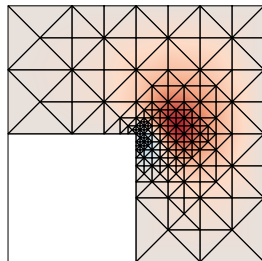
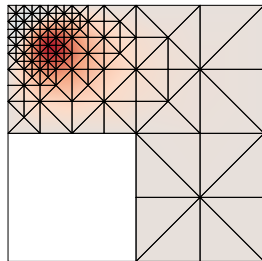
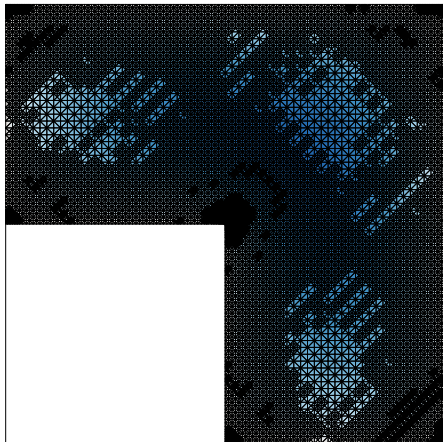
First result⁵: reduction of stochastic Galerkin energy norm error by **uniform factor** in each step of the adaptive scheme, linear convergence to exact solution.

⁵M. Bachmayr, M. Eigel, H. Eisenmann and I. Voulis, *A convergent adaptive finite element stochastic Galerkin method based on multilevel expansions of random fields*, to appear in SINUM

L-shaped domain, multilevel hat functions $\psi_{\ell,m}$ with $\|\psi_{\ell,m}\|_{L_\infty} \lesssim 2^{-\alpha\ell}$,
 spatial discretization by \mathbb{P}_1 elements on newest vertex bisection meshes.



Residual estimates as a function of $\#dof$ (parametric —, all —) and of computation time (· ·)



Optimal complexity

First consider optimality of generated discretizations assuming

- ▶ affine coefficients $a(y) = \bar{a} + \sum_{j \geq 1} y_j \psi_j$,
- ▶ best approximations of u in \mathcal{V}_N converging as $\mathcal{O}(N^{-s})$ with $s < \alpha/d$.

Theorem (B., Eisenmann, Voulis '25; abridged).

- ▶ The meshes generated by the method have **optimal cardinality**:

$$\|u - u_N\|_{L^2(Y, V, \mu)} \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{with} \quad N \lesssim \varepsilon^{-1/s}.$$

- ▶ If $\{\psi_j\}$ have multilevel structure, **near-optimal total number of operations**

$$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1/s}(1 + |\log \varepsilon|^3)) \quad \text{for all } s < \alpha/d.$$

- ▶ **Main new ingredient:** **stability property of finite element frames** on adaptively refined (newest vertex bisection) meshes

Extension to non-affine coefficients

- ▶ Uniformly elliptic coefficients of the form (e.g., log-uniform case $g = \exp$)

$$a(y) = g\left(\sum_{j \geq 1} y_j \theta_j\right) \quad \text{with i.i.d. } y_j \sim \mathcal{U}(-1, 1),$$

- ▶ Requires new semi-discrete operator compression
- ▶ Basic strategy: for g analytic in sufficiently large rectangle in \mathbb{C} , use polynomial approximations of g .

Theorem (B., Eisenmann, Voulis '25; abridged).

Assuming $\{\psi_j\}$ with multilevel structure as before and best approximation rate $s < \alpha/d$, then

$$\|u - u_N\|_{L^2(Y, V, \mu)} \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{with} \quad N \lesssim \varepsilon^{-1/s}$$

using a number of operations of order

$$\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-1/s'} (1 + |\log \varepsilon|^r)) \quad \text{for all } s' < s < \alpha/d$$

with $r > 0$ independent of s', s, k .

- ▶ A. Cohen, R. DeVore, and Ch. Schwab, *Convergence rates of best N -term Galerkin approximations for a class of elliptic sPDEs*, FoCM, 2010.
- ▶ A. Cohen, R. DeVore, and Ch. Schwab, *Analytic regularity and polynomial approximation of parametric and stochastic elliptic PDEs*, Analysis and Applications, 2011.
- ▶ A. Cohen and R. DeVore, *Approximation of high-dimensional parametric PDEs*, Acta Numerica 24, 2015.
- ▶ A. Cohen and R. DeVore, *Kolmogorov widths under holomorphic mappings*, IMA Journal of Numerical Analysis, 2016.
- ▶ M. Bachmayr and A. Cohen, *Kolmogorov widths and low-rank approximations of parametric elliptic PDEs*, Math Comp, 2017.
- ▶ M. Bachmayr, A. Cohen, and G. Migliorati, *Sparse polynomial approximation of parametric elliptic PDEs. Part I: affine coefficients*, ESAIM M2AN, 2017.
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- ▶ M. Bachmayr, A. Cohen, and W. Dahmen, *Parametric PDEs: Sparse or low-rank approximations?*, IMA JNA, 2018.
- ▶ M. Bachmayr, I. G. Graham, V. K. Nguyen, and R. Scheichl, *Unified analysis of periodization-based sampling methods for Matérn covariances*, SINUM, 2020.
- ▶ M. Bachmayr and A. Djurdjevac, *Multilevel representations of isotropic Gaussian random fields on the sphere*, IMA JNA, 2022.
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- ▶ M. Bachmayr, M. Eigel, H. Eisenmann and I. Voulis, *A convergent adaptive finite element stochastic Galerkin method based on multilevel expansions of random fields*, to appear in SINUM (arXiv:2403.13770).
- ▶ M. Bachmayr, H. Eisenmann and I. Voulis, *Adaptive stochastic Galerkin finite element methods: optimality and non-affine coefficients*, arXiv:2503.18704.
- ▶ M. Bachmayr and H. Yang, *Sparse and low-rank approximations of parametric elliptic PDEs: the best of both worlds*, arXiv:2506.19584.

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Happy birthday, Albert!