

Optimization under uncertainty of high-dimensional, sloppy models

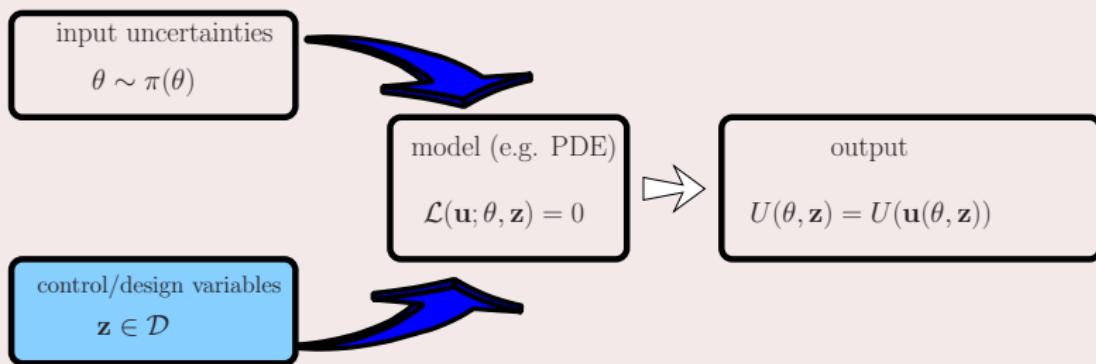


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Motivation

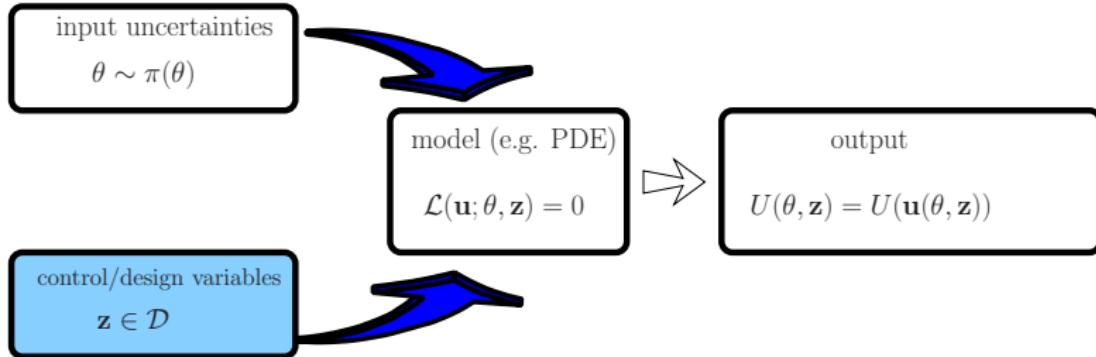
Uncertainty quantification



- uncertainties $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_\theta}$, $n_\theta \gg 1$
- design/control variables $\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n_d}$, $n_d \gg 1$
- Goal - Stochastic Optimization: Can we *efficiently* optimize w.r.t \mathbf{z} and some output utility/gain $U(\theta, \mathbf{z})$:

$$V(\mathbf{z}) = \int U(\theta, \mathbf{z})\pi(\theta) d\theta$$

Motivation



Big Data Challenges

- Solve model (e.g. PDE) to obtain: $u(\theta, \mathbf{z}), \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{z}}$
 - ✓ High-dimensional
 - ✓ Complex
 - ✓ Structured
 - ✗ *Very Expensive*: The cost of the forward solves is a major factor in the overall efficiency

Motivation

Stochastic, model-based design/optimization: Find the design \mathbf{z} that “on average” will respond the closest to the desired/target response \mathbf{u}_0

$$\max_{\mathbf{z}} \quad V(\mathbf{z}) = \int U(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \pi(\theta) \, d\theta$$

$$\text{where: } U(\theta, \mathbf{z}) = e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} ||\mathbf{u}_0 - \mathbf{u}(\theta, \mathbf{z})||^2}$$

Desiderata - The proposed scheme should be able to:

- handle high-dimensional uncertainties θ (e.g $\mathcal{O}(\dim(\theta)) = 1000$)
- handle high-dimensional design spaces \mathbf{z} (e.g $\mathcal{O}(\dim(\mathbf{z})) = 1000$)
- assess the sensitivity of the objective to design features (robustness)
- require the least possible evaluations of $\mathbf{u}(\theta, \mathbf{z})$ (and its derivatives)

Motivation

Deterministic optimization

- There is a wealth of techniques adapted to PDE-settings (e.g. adjoint formulations)
- Their direct transition to the stochastic setting is infeasible/impractical.

Stochastic Approximation (Robbins & Monro 1951)

- Perform gradient ascent i.e.:

$$\mathbf{z}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{z}^{(k)} + \alpha_k \hat{\mathbf{J}}(\mathbf{z}^{(k)})$$

where:

- $\alpha_k > 0$, $\alpha_k \rightarrow 0$, $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = +\infty$ and $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k^2 < +\infty$.
- $\hat{\mathbf{J}}(\mathbf{z}^{(k)})$ = unbiased estimator of $\frac{\partial V}{\partial \mathbf{z}} = \int \frac{\partial U(\theta, \mathbf{z})}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \pi(\theta) d\theta$ (e.g. with Monte Carlo and a single θ -sample)

Surrogate Models (e.g. gen. Pol. Chaos, Multi-dimensional Gaussian Processes): $\hat{u}(\mathbf{z}, \theta) \approx u(\mathbf{z}, \theta)$

- Not competitive when $\dim(\theta), \dim(\mathbf{z}) \gg 1$
- Accuracy can also be poor in such settings.

Approach

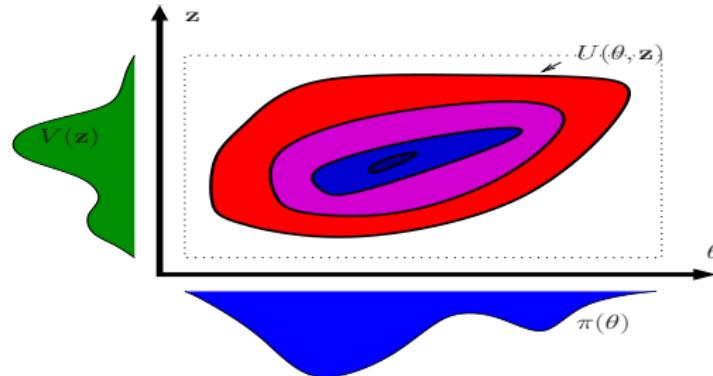
Optimize the *expected utility/gain* $V(\mathbf{z})$:

$$V(\mathbf{z}) = \int U(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \pi(\theta) d\theta, \quad U(\theta, \mathbf{z}) = e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{u}_0 - \mathbf{u}(\theta, \mathbf{z})\|^2}$$

We adopt a *probabilistic inference* approach (Müller 1999) in the joint $\theta \times \mathbf{z}$ space ^a:

$$p(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \propto U(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \pi(\theta)$$

Note that the \mathbf{z} -coordinates of (θ, \mathbf{z}) samples from $p(\theta, \mathbf{z})$ will concentrate on the maxima of V .



^a $U(\theta, \mathbf{z})$ is assumed positive or in general bounded from below

Approach

the good:

- uniform treatment as a probabilistic inference problem
- inferring the density $p(\mathbf{z})$ rather than a single-point estimate \mathbf{z}^* can provide useful information about sensitivity of the solution

the bad:

- we have to work on the joint space $\theta \otimes \mathbf{z}$
- standard inference tools (e.g. plain vanilla Monte Carlo) can be very demanding in terms of forward runs.
- multiple local optima of $V(\mathbf{z})$

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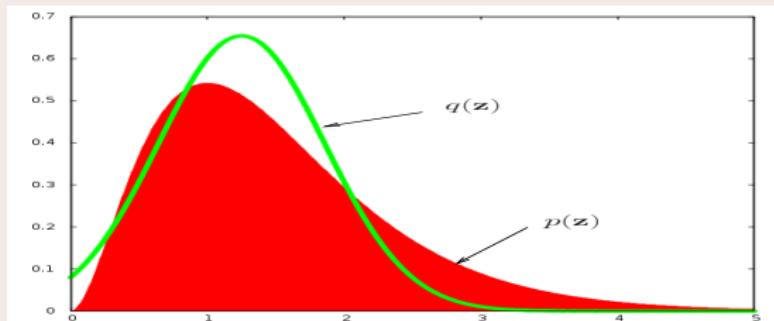
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Variational Inference & Learning

Our goal is to infer:

$$p(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \propto U(\theta, \mathbf{z})\pi(\theta) \rightarrow p(\mathbf{z}) \propto V(\mathbf{z}) = \int U(\theta, \mathbf{z})\pi(\theta) d\theta$$

Variational inference attempts to *approximate* $p(\mathbf{z})$ with a density $q^*(\mathbf{z})$ (belonging to an appropriate family of distributions \mathcal{Q}) such that [Bishop 2006]:



$$q^*(\mathbf{z}) = \arg \min_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} KL(q(\mathbf{z}) || p(\mathbf{z})) = - \int q(\mathbf{z}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{z})}{q(\mathbf{z})} d\mathbf{z}$$

Variational Inference & Learning

- In the joint space $\theta \otimes \mathbf{z}$, we seek $q(\theta, \mathbf{z})$ that minimizes the KL-divergence with the target joint density $p(\theta, \mathbf{z}) = \frac{U(\theta, \mathbf{z})\pi(\theta)}{Z}$

$$\begin{aligned} KL(q(\theta, \mathbf{z}) || p(\theta, \mathbf{z})) &= - \int q(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \log \frac{p(\theta, \mathbf{z})}{q(\theta, \mathbf{z})} d\theta d\mathbf{z} \\ &= \log Z - \mathcal{F}(q) \end{aligned}$$

- Minimizing the Kullback-Leibler divergence is equivalent to maximizing :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}(q) &= E_q \left(\log \frac{U(\theta, \mathbf{z})\pi(\theta)}{q(\theta, \mathbf{z})} \right) \\ &= E_q(\log U(\theta, \mathbf{z})) + E_q(\log \pi(\theta)) - E_q(\log q) \end{aligned}$$

- Easy/Tractable terms: $E_q(\log \pi(\theta))$, $E_q(\log q)$
- Difficult term: $E_q(\log U(\theta, \mathbf{z})) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} E_q(||\mathbf{u}_0 - \mathbf{u}(\theta, \mathbf{z})||^2)$
- What about high-dimensional \mathbf{z} (or θ)?
- What about any regularization/prior on \mathbf{z} ?

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Sparse Bayesian Learning and “Sloppiness” [Brown & Sethna 2003]

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{z}}_{N \times 1} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_z + \underbrace{\mathbf{W}}_{N \times n} \underbrace{\mathbf{y}}_{n \times 1} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z$$

where:

- \mathbf{W} : set of reduced basis/features/vocabulary ($n \ll N$)
- \mathbf{y} : reduced-coordinates
- $\boldsymbol{\eta}_z$: remaining “noise”

Sparse Bayesian Learning and “Sloppiness” [Brown & Sethna 2003]

$$\mathbf{z} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_z + \underbrace{\mathbf{W}}_{N \times n} \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\theta}$$

- Assumption 1: Latent variables $\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\theta}$

$$q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\theta}) = q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\theta})q(\boldsymbol{\eta}_z)$$

- Assumption 2: Family of approximating distributions $q \in \mathcal{Q}$ are multivariate Gaussians $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{S})$.

$$q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\theta}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta} & \mathbf{C}_{\theta y} \\ \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}^T & \mathbf{C}_{yy} \end{bmatrix}), \quad q(\boldsymbol{\eta}_z) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau_z^{-1}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T))$$

- This is NOT PCA
- Directions \mathbf{y} have the lowest variance i.e. variations along them, cause (locally) smaller changes in $V(\mathbf{z})$.
- *Implicit assumption:* $\dim(\mathbf{y}) \ll \dim(\mathbf{z})$

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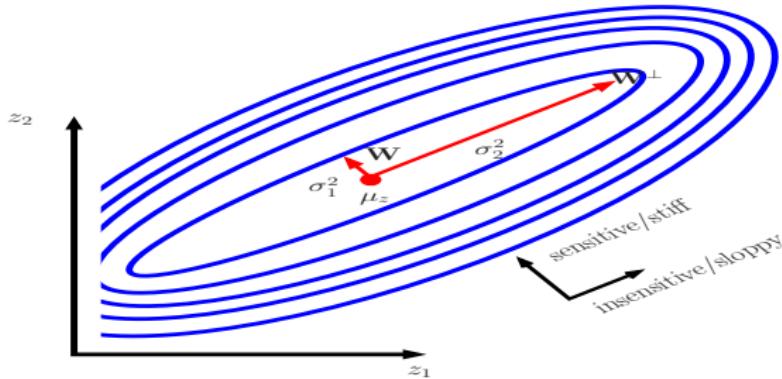
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$$q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\theta}) \equiv \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta} & \mathbf{C}_{\theta y} \\ \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}^T & \mathbf{C}_{yy} \end{bmatrix}), \quad q(\boldsymbol{\eta}_z) \equiv \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \tau_z^{-1}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T))$$

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Sloppiness



- Since $\mathbf{z} = \mu_z + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z$:

$$V(\mathbf{z}) = \int U(\theta, \mathbf{z}) p(\theta) d\theta \approx q(\mathbf{z}) \propto e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{z} - \mu_z)^T \mathbf{C}_{zz}^{-1} (\mathbf{z} - \mu_z)}$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{C}_{zz} &= \mathbf{W} \mathbf{C}_{yy} \mathbf{W}^T + \tau_z^{-1} \mathbf{I} \\ &= \mathbf{W} \mathbf{U} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \sigma_{d_y}^2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{W}^T + \tau_z^{-1} \mathbf{I} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_z + \underbrace{\mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}}_{N \times n} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

- Assumption 3: Model parameters $\mathbf{R} = \{\boldsymbol{\mu}_z, \mathbf{W}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \sigma_d^2\}$
 - prior $p(\boldsymbol{\mu}_z)$ for regularization (problem-dependent)
 - $\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} = \mathbf{I}$, i.e. $p(\mathbf{W}) \equiv$ uniform on Stiefel manifold $V_n(\mathbb{R}^N)$
 - $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$ from $\pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \pi(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$
- Assumption 4: Linearization at $(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_z)$ - E.g. $U(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}) = e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|(\mathbf{u}_0 - u(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}))\|^2}$:

$$u(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}) \approx u(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_z) + \mathbf{G}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \mathbf{G}_z (\mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z)$$

where $\mathbf{G}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}}|_{(\boldsymbol{\mu}_z, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})}$ and $\mathbf{G}_z = \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}|_{(\boldsymbol{\mu}_z, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})}$ available with minimal cost from adjoint-PDE.

$$\mathbf{z} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_z + \underbrace{\mathbf{W}}_{N \times n} \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \quad \boldsymbol{\theta} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

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$$\mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{z}) \approx \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_z) + \mathbf{G}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + \mathbf{G}_z (\mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_z)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{F}(q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_\theta), \mathbf{R}) = & -\frac{\tau_Q}{2} \left(|\mathbf{u}_{target} - \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_\theta, \boldsymbol{\mu}_z)|^2 \right. & (\text{from } E_q[U]) \\
 & + \text{tr}(\mathbf{G}_\theta^T \mathbf{G}_\theta \mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta}) + \text{tr}(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{G}_z^T \mathbf{G}_z \mathbf{W} \mathbf{C}_{yy}) \\
 & + \tau_z^{-1} \text{tr}(\mathbf{G}_z^T \mathbf{G}_z (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T)) \\
 & \left. + 2\text{tr}(\mathbf{G}_\theta^T \mathbf{G}_z \mathbf{W} \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}) \right) \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_\theta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta 0})^T \mathbf{C}_{\theta 0}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_\theta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta 0}) & (\text{from } E_q[p_\theta]) \\
 & - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{C}_{\theta 0}^{-1} \mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta}) \\
 & - \frac{\tau_{y0}}{2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{C}_{yy}) & (\text{from } E_q[p(\mathbf{y})]) \\
 & - \frac{d_z - d_y}{2} \frac{\tau_{z0}}{\tau_z} & (\text{from } E_q[p(\boldsymbol{\eta}_z)]) \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} \log \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta} & \mathbf{C}_{\theta y} \\ \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}^T & \mathbf{C}_{yy} \end{vmatrix} & (\text{from } E_q[q(\boldsymbol{\eta}_\theta, \mathbf{y})]) \\
 & + \frac{d_z - d_y}{2} \log \tau_z & (\text{from } E_q[q(\boldsymbol{\eta}_z)]) \\
 & + \log p_{\boldsymbol{\mu}_z}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_z) + \log p_{\mathbf{W}}(\mathbf{W}).
 \end{aligned}$$

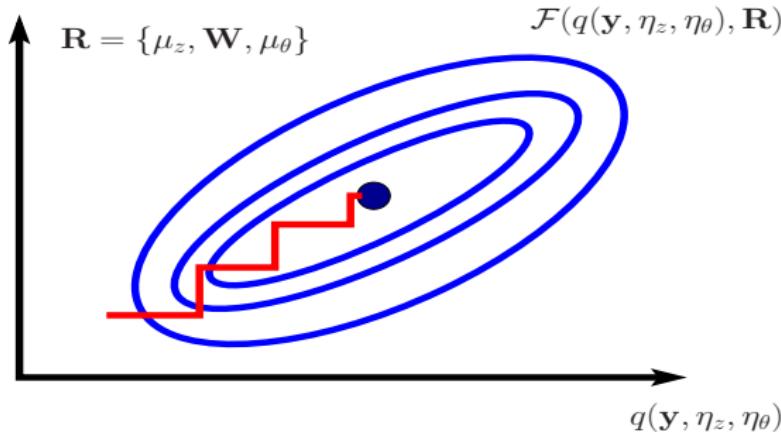


Figure : Variational Bayesian Expectation-Maximization (VB-EM, Beal & Ghahramani, 2003)

Iterate until convergence:

- **VB-Expectation:** Given the current \mathbf{R} find the optimal q (i.e. the optimal $\mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta}, \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}, \mathbf{C}_{yy}, \tau_z$)
- **VB-Maximization:** Given the current q (i.e. $\mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta}, \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}, \mathbf{C}_{yy}, \tau_z$), find the optimal $\mathbf{R} = \{\mu_z, \mathbf{W}, \mu_\theta\}$.

$$KL(q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_\theta) || p_{aux}(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_\theta | \mathbf{R}))$$

- Estimate with Importance Sampling
- To “normalize” w.r.t the dimension we use:

$$nKL = \frac{KL(q(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_\theta) || p_{aux}(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z, \boldsymbol{\eta}_\theta | \mathbf{R}))}{H(q)}.$$

where:

$$H(q) = \frac{d_\theta + d_y}{2} \log 2\pi + \frac{1}{2} \log \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{\theta\theta}^{opt} & \mathbf{C}_{\theta y}^{opt} \\ sym. & \mathbf{C}_{yy}^{opt} \end{vmatrix} + \frac{d_z - d_y}{2} \log \frac{2\pi}{\tau_z^{opt}}.$$

Numerical Illustrations

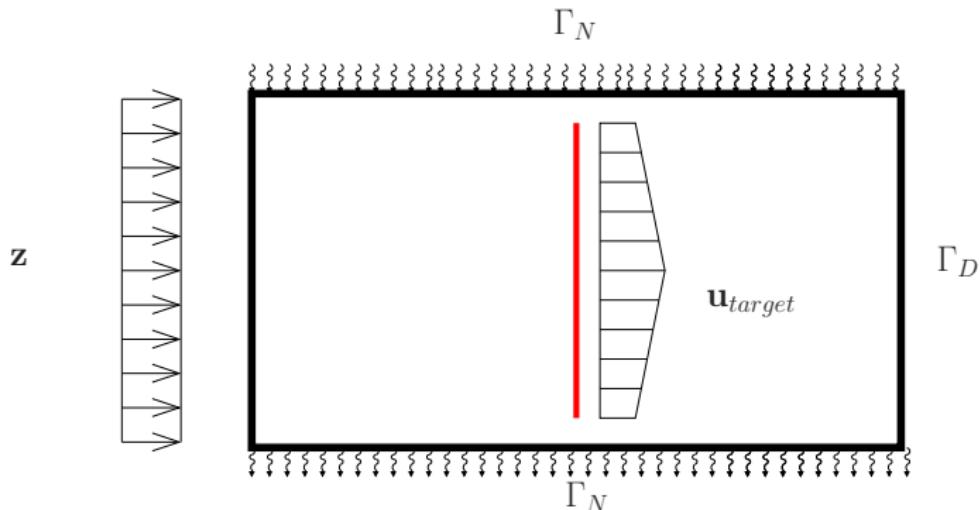
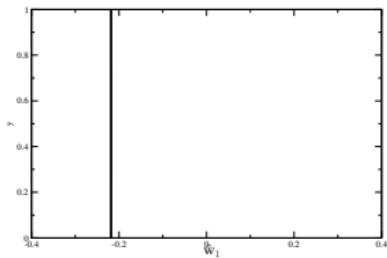
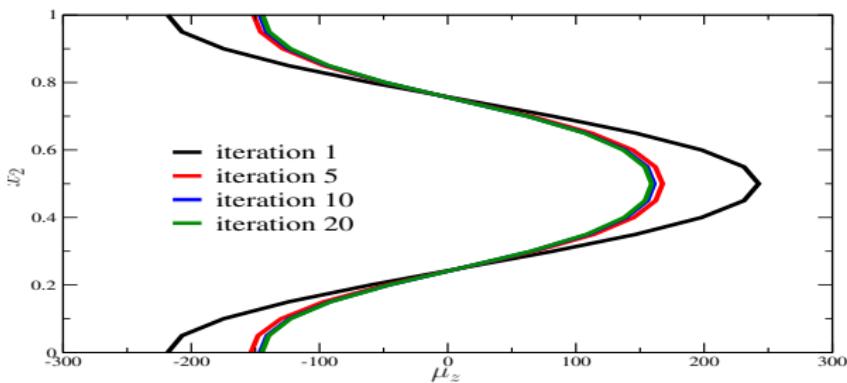


Figure : Random variables $d_\theta = 1600$, Number of design variables $d_z = 21$

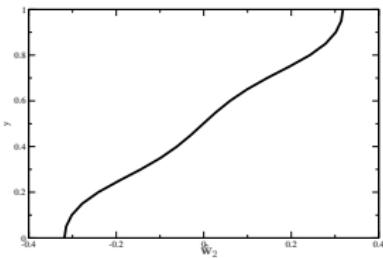
- Forward model: $\nabla \cdot (-\lambda(\mathbf{x}) \nabla u(\mathbf{x})) = 0$ in $[-1, 1] \times [0, 1]$
- Uncertainties (coef. of variation 0.5): $\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = e^{\lambda_g(\mathbf{x})}$,

$$\lambda_g(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_g, C_g), \quad C_g(\Delta x_1, \Delta x_2) = \sigma_g^2 \exp\left\{-\frac{\sqrt{\Delta x_1^2 + \Delta x_2^2}}{x_0}\right\}, \quad x_0 = \sqrt{0.1}$$

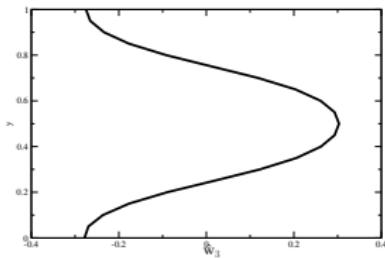
Numerical Illustrations



$$(a) \sigma_1^2 = 4.0 \times 10^{-2}$$



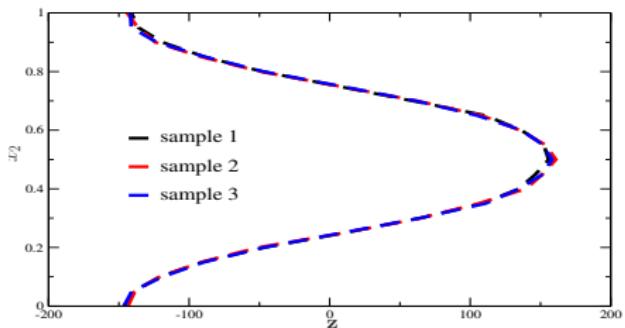
$$(b) \sigma_2^2 = 1.5 \times 10^3$$



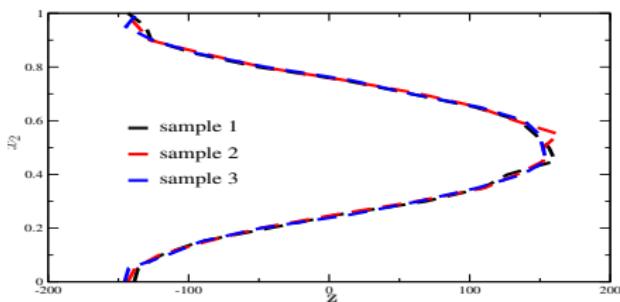
$$(c) \sigma_3^2 = 6.6 \times 10^3$$

Figure : First three most sensitive eigenvectors $\{\hat{w}_j\}_{j=1}^3$ and associated variances σ_j^2 .

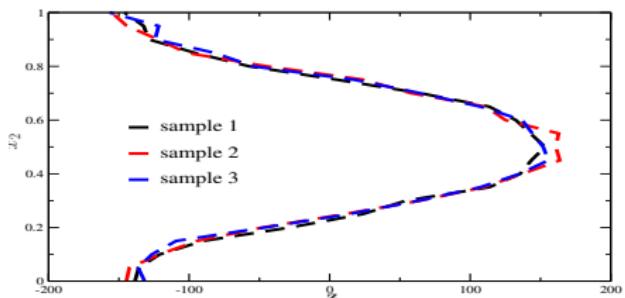
Numerical Illustration



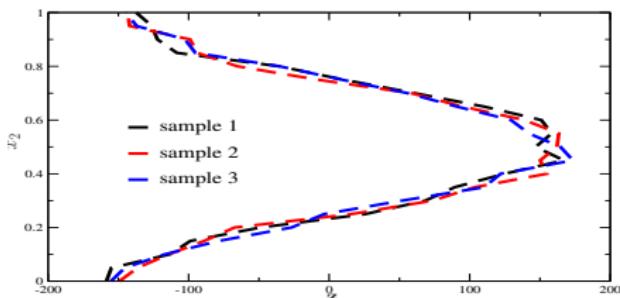
$$(a) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.95$$



$$(b) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.75$$



$$(c) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.50$$



$$(d) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.25$$

Figure : Alternative designs z at various levels of expected gain $\frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)}$ as compared to the optimal μ_z

Numerical Illustration

Validation

d_y	nKL
1	1.5×10^{-1}
2	1.2×10^{-1}
5	4.7×10^{-2}
10	2.5×10^{-2}
20	9.8×10^{-3}

Table : Normalized KL-divergence

Deterministic topology optimization

Shape/topology optimization:

$$\max_z \quad e^{-|u_0 - u(z)|^2 / 2\sigma_0^2}$$

such that:

$$\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{z})\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{b} \quad (\text{governing equation})$$

$$\int d(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x} = V_0, \quad (\text{volume fraction})$$

$$d(\mathbf{x}) \in [0, 1]$$

$$d(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{material} \\ 0, & \text{void} \end{cases}$$

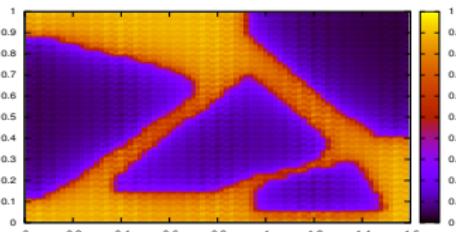
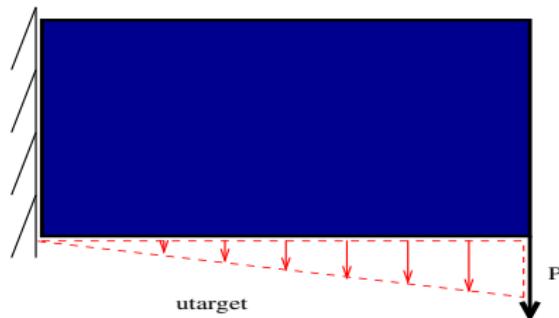


Figure : Deterministic adjoint-based gradient optimization - $O(100)$ forward runs

Shape/topology optimization:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \mathbf{b} \quad (\text{governing equation}) \\ \int d(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} &= V_0, \quad (\text{volume fraction}) \\ d(\mathbf{x}) &\in [0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d(\mathbf{x}) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{material} \\ 0, & \text{void} \end{cases} \\ \boldsymbol{\theta} &\sim \pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \quad (\text{random material properties}) \end{aligned}$$

Stochastic topology optimization

Targeted design: $\max_{\mathbf{z}} \int e^{-\frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) - \mathbf{u}_0|^2} \pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\boldsymbol{\theta}$
such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \mathbf{b} \quad (\text{governing equation}) \\ \int d(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} &= V_0, \quad (\text{volume fraction}) \\ d(\mathbf{x}) &\in [0, 1] \\ \boldsymbol{\theta} &\sim \pi(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{aligned}$$

- Number of random variables $d_{\theta} = 3536$
- Number of design variables $d_z = 3536$

Shape/topology optimization:

$$\max_{\mathbf{z}} \quad e^{-|\mathbf{u}_0 - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{z})|^2 / 2\sigma_0^2}$$

such that:

$$\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{z})\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{b} \quad (\text{governing equation})$$

$$\int d(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x} = V_0, \quad (\text{volume fraction})$$

$$d(\mathbf{x}) \in [0, 1]$$

$$d(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{material} \\ 0, & \text{void} \end{cases}$$

- Equality constraint $h(\mathbf{z}) = 0$: *probabilistic enforcement*

$$\text{Target density: } p(\theta, \mathbf{z}) \propto U(\theta, \mathbf{z})\pi(\theta) e^{-\frac{h(\mathbf{z})^2}{2\epsilon^2}}, \quad \epsilon \rightarrow 0$$

- $p(\mu_z)$: penalize jumps with ARD prior
- Use logit to convert binary to real variables

Numerical Illustrations

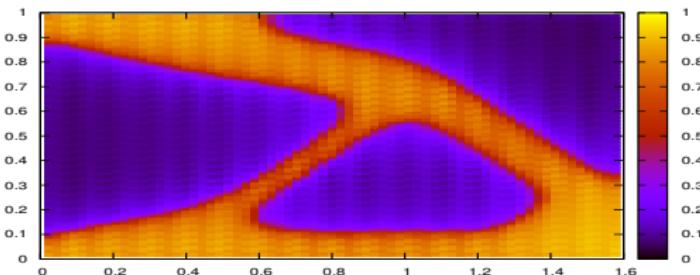
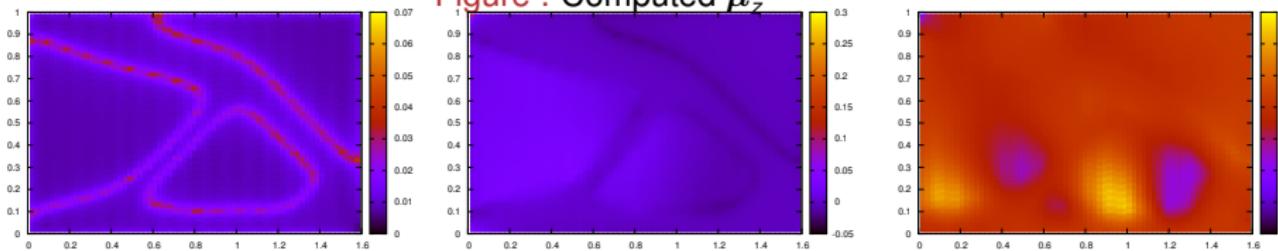


Figure : Computed μ_z



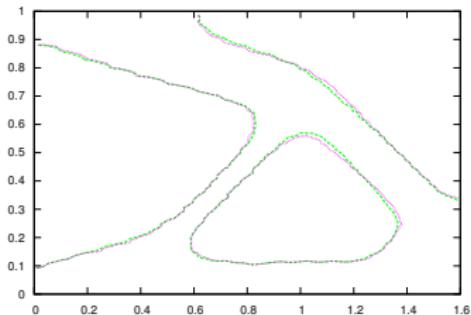
(a) $\sigma_1^2 = 7.31 \times 10^{-1}$

(b) $\sigma_2^2 = 1.25 \times 10^2$

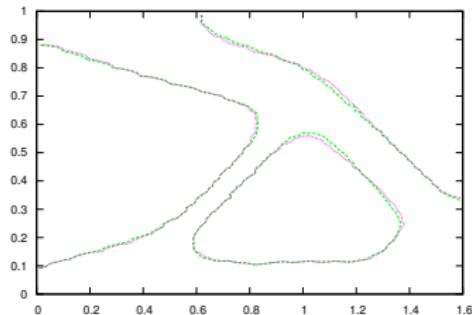
(c) $\sigma_7^2 = 1.36 \times 10^4$

Figure : Sensitive eigenvectors \hat{w}_j and associated variances σ_j^2 .

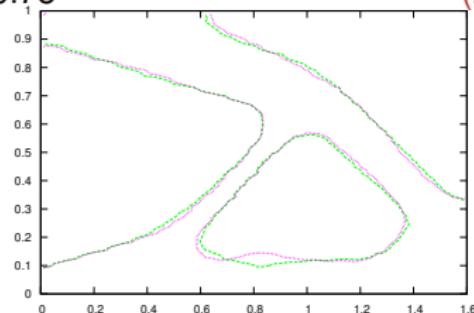
Numerical Illustrations



$$(a) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.75$$



$$(b) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.50$$



$$(c) \frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)} = 0.25$$

Figure : Outline of alternative designs z at various levels of expected gain $\frac{V(z)}{V(\mu_z)}$ as compared to the optimal μ_z ($VF = 0.4$)

Validation

d_y	nKL	
	$VolumeFraction = 0.4$	$VolumeFraction = 0.2$
5	1.5×10^{-2}	3.4×10^{-1}
10	8.7×10^{-3}	1.9×10^{-1}
15	3.9×10^{-3}	1.3×10^{-1}
20	6.0×10^{-4}	6.8×10^{-2}

Table : Normalized KL-divergence

- Stochastic *optimization/design* poses significantly more challenges than *uncertainty propagation* when *thousands* of random and design variables are present.
- We advocate a probabilistic inference reformulation
- Variational Bayesian inference and learning techniques lead to efficient computation of approximate solutions
- Dictionary learning can lead to significant dimensionality reduction and identify most sensitive directions
- Extension 1: MoG to capture non-Gaussian and multi-modal design objectives
- Extension 2: Integration of *probabilistic surrogates* [Bilionis & Zabaras 2014]