

# Advanced Stochastic Finite Element Methods

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# Advanced Stochastic Finite Element Methods

Elective course for MSc and PhD students

3 ECTS

Lecturer: Iason Papaioannou ([iason.papaioannou@tum.de](mailto:iason.papaioannou@tum.de))

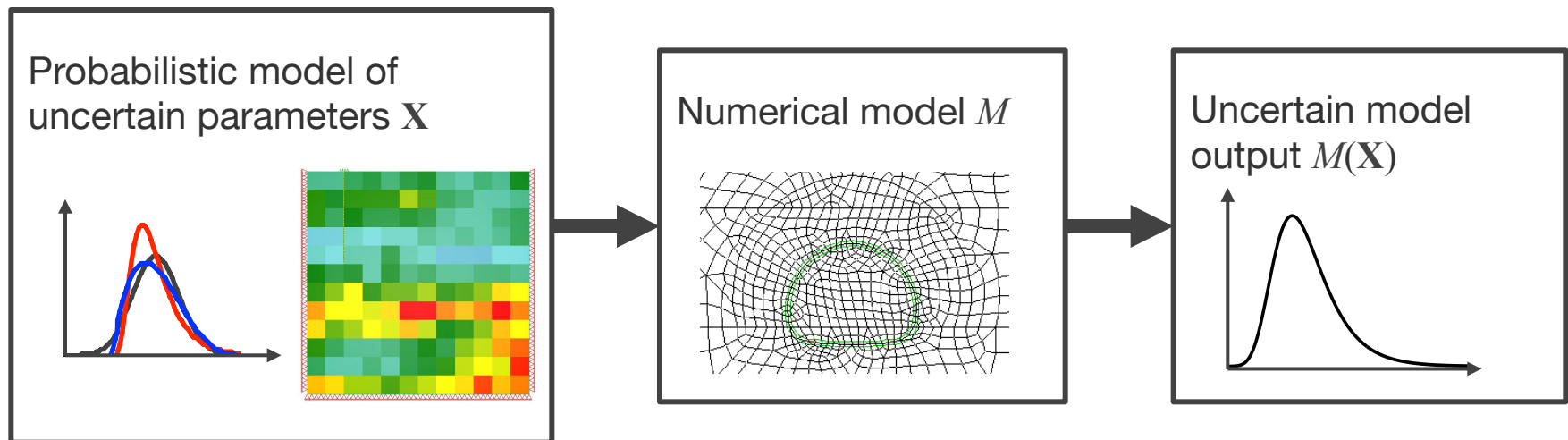
Guest lecturer: Elisabeth Ullmann ([elisabeth.ullmann@ma.tum.de](mailto:elisabeth.ullmann@ma.tum.de))

Course dates: June 6 – 10, 9am – 12:30pm and 14pm – 16pm

Lecture room: N2619

Course language: English

# Motivation



# Lecture Contents

1. Advanced Monte Carlo methods
  - a) Advanced sampling (LHS, QRS)
  - b) Multi-level Monte Carlo
2. Spectral stochastic finite element methods
  - a) Spectral representation of random variables – PC expansion
  - b) Stochastic Galerkin method
  - c) Stochastic collocation methods
  - d) Sparse PC expansions
3. Stochastic finite elements and reliability
  - a) Definition of the reliability problem
  - b) Reliability analysis with PC expansions

## Class schedule

Day	Lectures 9am – 12:30pm	Tutorial 2pm – 4pm	Lecture notes
Monday June 6	Introduction, Review of probability theory, linear finite elements, discretization of random fields	Discretization of random fields (the Karhunen-Loève expansion)	Chapters 1 – 4
Tuesday June 7	Monte Carlo simulation advanced sampling methods	Finite elements with random field inputs	Chapters 4 – 5
Wed. June 8	Polynomial chaos expansion Stochastic Galerkin method	Monte Carlo finite element methods	Chapter 6
Thursday June 9	Stochastic collocation methods Sparse PCE	PCE representation of finite element solution	Chapter 6
Friday June 10	9.00-10.30: Stochastic finite elements and reliability 11.00 – 12.30: Multilevel Monte Carlo method (lecture held by Prof. Ullmann)		

# Lecture organization

- Lecture: White board/slides
- Homework-exercises
- Examination: Project work
  - Students must hand in a Matlab code and a short report
  - Oral presentation of results
- Prerequisites
  - Linear finite element method
  - Probability theory (random variables/random fields)
  - Basic knowledge of functional analysis is recommended

# Literature

## Lecture Notes

### Stochastic Finite Element Methods

I Papaioannou

TU München

### Numerical methods for stochastic computations: A spectral method approach

D Xiu

Princeton University Press, 2010

## Stochastic finite elements and reliability:

### A state-of-the-art report

B Sudret, A Der Kiureghian

UC Berkeley, 2000

## Stochastic finite elements:

### A spectral approach

RG Ghanem, PD Spanos

Dover Publications, 2004

## Random variables

**Random variable** – Mathematical tool for modeling uncertain quantities

- Random variables map possible outcomes of an experiment (collected in the sample space  $S$ ) to the real numbers
- A random variable is represented by a capital letter, e.g.  $X$
- An outcome of a random variable is represented by a lower case letter, e.g.  $x$



## Random variables

**Cumulative distribution function (CDF)** – Function that returns the probability that a random variable  $X$  is smaller than or equal to an outcome  $x$

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

### Notes:

- The CDF is a non-decreasing function
- The CDF has limits  $F_X(-\infty) = 0$ ,  $F_X(\infty) = 1$
- $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$

## Discrete random variables

Random variables with discrete number of outcomes

**Probability Mass Function (PMF)** – Function that returns the probability that a discrete random variable  $X$  takes a specific value  $x$

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x)$$

**CDF of discrete random variable:**  $F_X(x) = \sum_{x_i \leq x} p_X(x_i)$

**Normalization rule:**  $\sum_{\forall x_i} p_X(x_i) = 1$

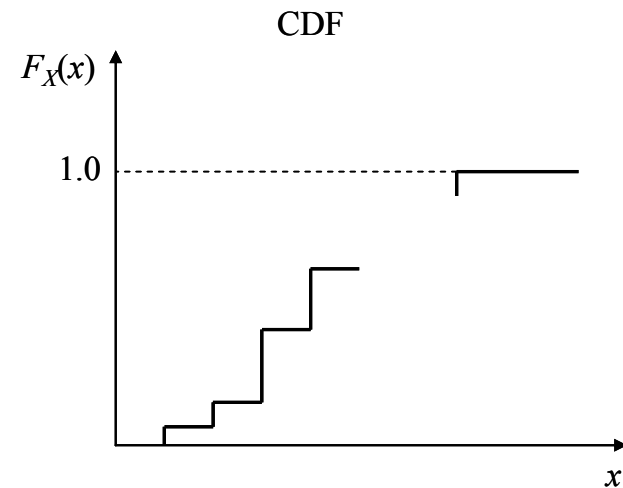
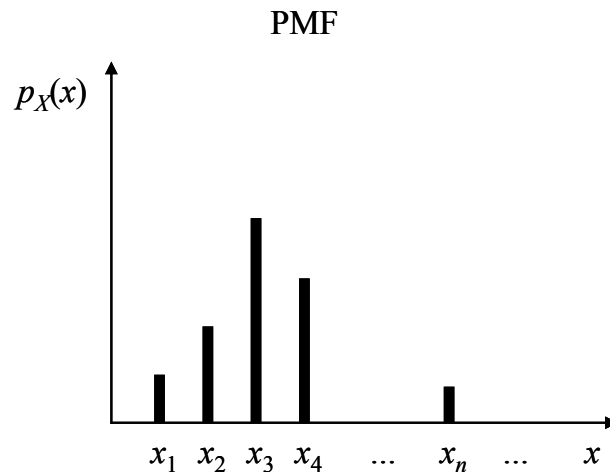
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## Continuous random variables

Random variables which can take any value within one or more intervals

**Probability Density Function (PDF)** – Function whose integral over an interval gives the probability that  $X$  takes a value within this interval

$$f_X(x)dx = P(x < X \leq x + dx)$$

**CDF of continuous random variable:**  $F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(t) dt \quad \Rightarrow \quad f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}$

**Normalization rule:**  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$

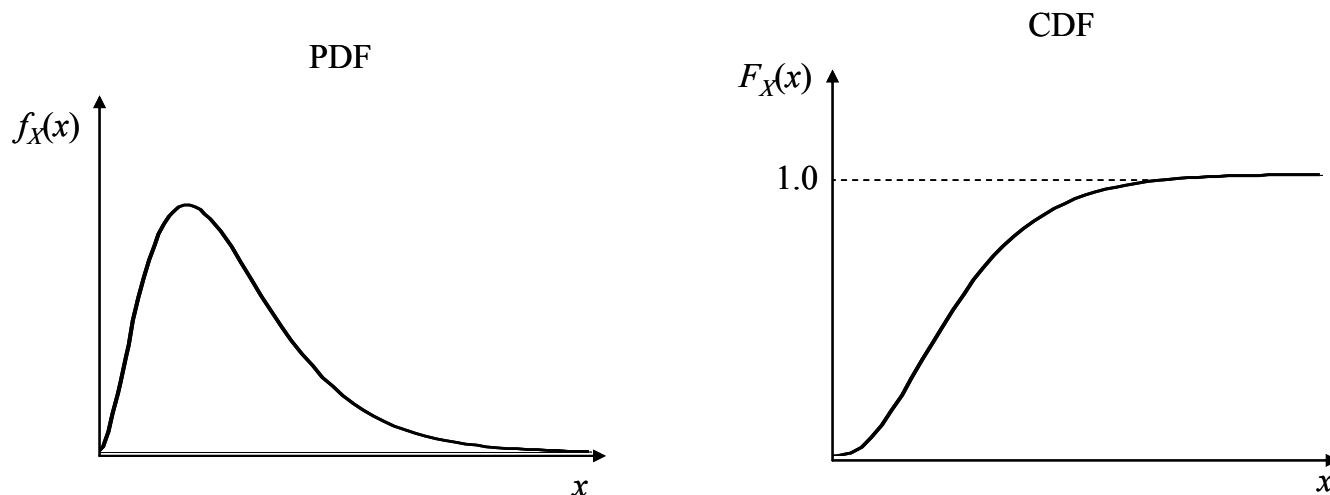
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# Expectations and moments

## Expectation of a function

- Discrete random variable
- Continuous random variable

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{\forall x_i} g(x_i) \cdot p_X(x_i)$$

$$E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) \cdot f_X(x) dx$$

## Expectations and moments

**n-th moment of a random variable**

$$\mu_n = E[X^n]$$

Mean value

$$\mu_X = E[X]$$

**n-th central moment of a random variable**

$$\mu'_n = E[(X - \mu_X)^n]$$

Variance

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}[X] &= E[(X - \mu_X)^2] \\ &= E[X^2] - E[X]^2\end{aligned}$$

Standard deviation

$$\sigma_X = \sqrt{\text{Var}[X]}$$

Coefficient of variation

$$\delta_X = \frac{\sigma_X}{|\mu_X|}, \quad \mu_X \neq 0$$

## Normal (Gaussian) distribution

Defined by two parameters, the mean and the standard deviation  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$

$$\text{PDF: } f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \varphi\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right) \quad \text{CDF: } F_X(x) = \Phi\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

$\varphi(u), \Phi(u)$ : PDF, CDF of the **standard normal random variable**  $U \sim N(0,1)$

$$\varphi(u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{u^2}{2}\right]$$

$$\Phi(u) = \int_{-\infty}^u \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{z^2}{2}\right] dz$$

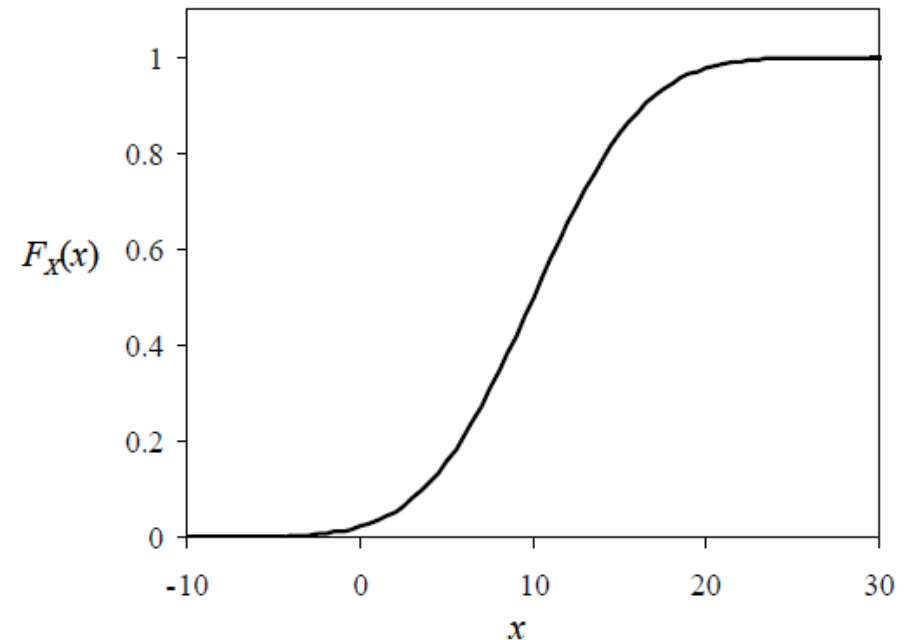
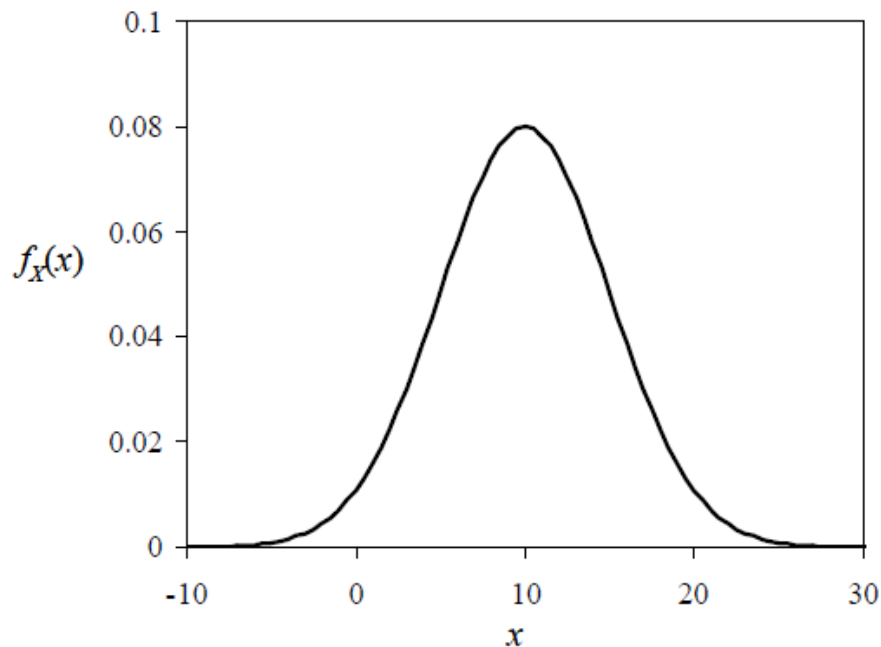


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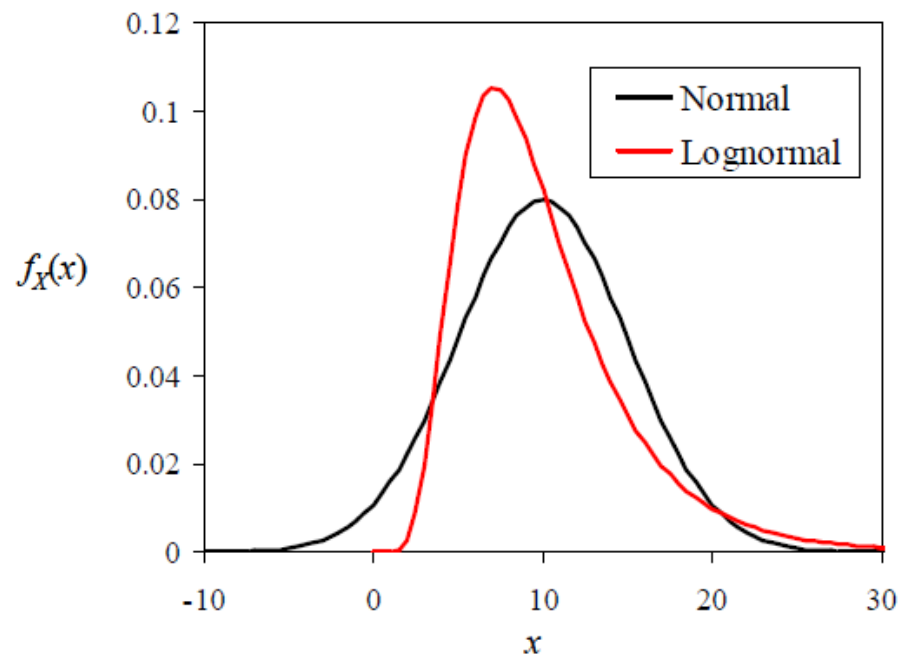


## Lognormal distribution

The logarithm of a lognormal random variable is normal

$$X \sim LN(\mu, \sigma) \Rightarrow \ln(X) \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$$

Asymmetric distribution with strictly positive outcomes



## Random vectors

Models of uncertain quantities that are observed simultaneously, e.g.

- Wave height and wave period
- Mechanical properties of the same material
- Load acting on structure and capacity of the structure

The individual random variables are gathered in a vector

$$\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$$

## Random vectors

### Joint CDF

e.g. for two random variables  $X, Y$

$$F_{XY}(x, y) = P[(X \leq x) \cap (Y \leq y)]$$

### Notes:

- The joint CDF is a non-decreasing function in each argument
- The joint CDF has limits  $F_{XY}(-\infty, y) = 0$ ,  $F_{XY}(x, -\infty) = 0$ ,  $F_{XY}(\infty, \infty) = 1$

## Random vectors

### Discrete random vectors – Joint PMF

e.g. for two discrete random variables  $X, Y$

$$p_{XY}(x, y) = P[(X = x) \cap (Y = y)]$$

**Normalization rule:** 
$$\sum_{\forall x_i} \sum_{\forall y_i} p_{XY}(x_i, y_i) = 1$$

### Continuous random vectors – Joint PDF

e.g. for two continuous random variables  $X, Y$

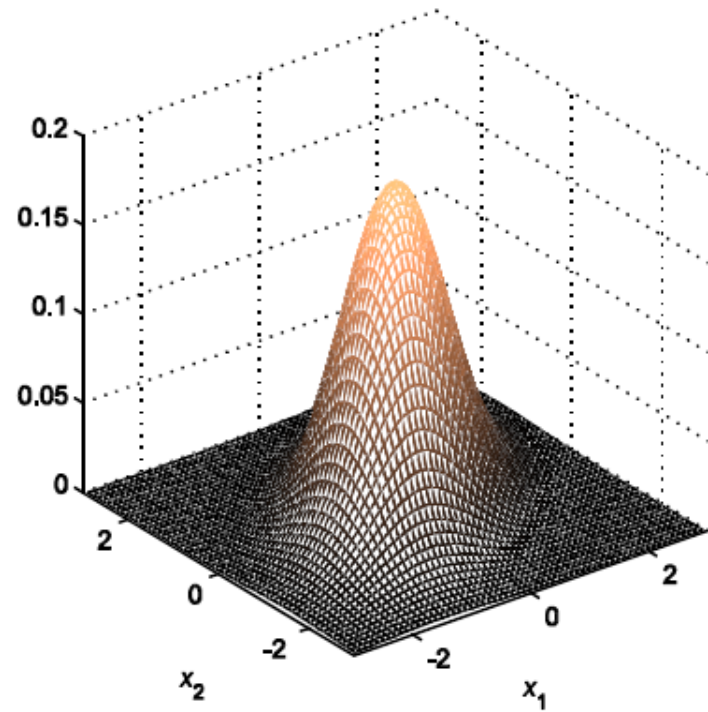
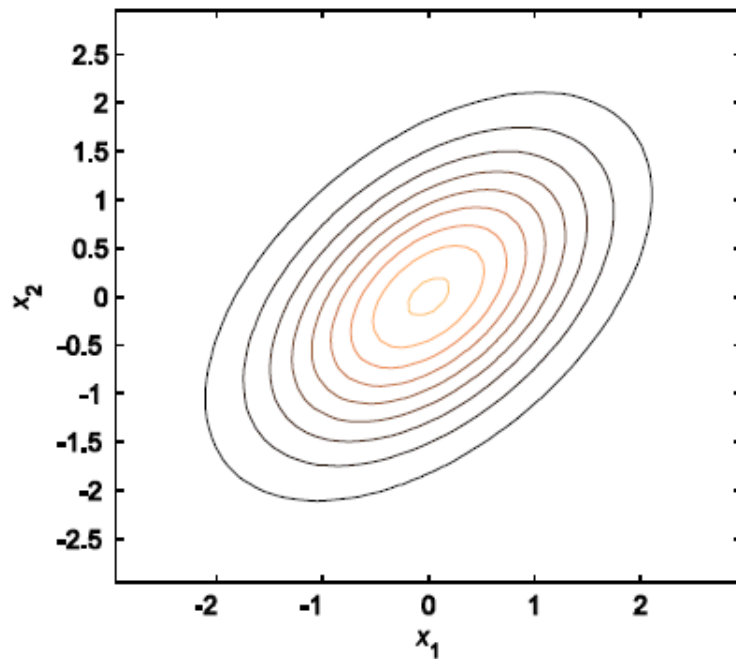
$$f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy = P[(x < X \leq x + dx) \cap (y < Y \leq y + dy)]$$

**Normalization rule:** 
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy = 1$$

## Random vectors

e.g. two continuous random variables

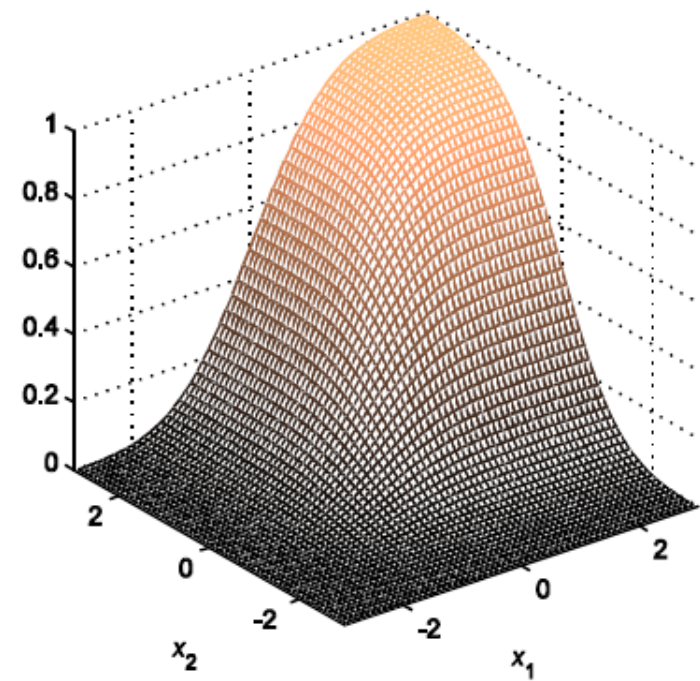
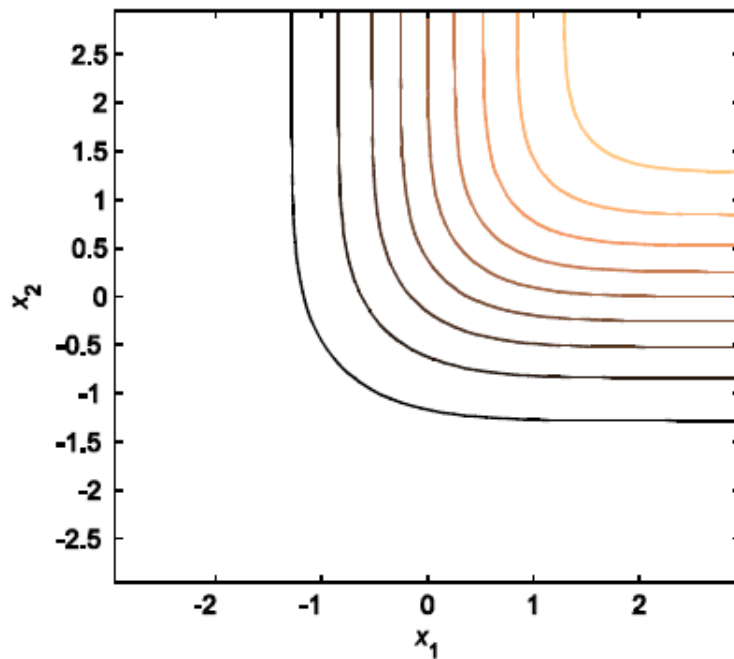
### Joint PDF



# Random vectors

e.g. two continuous random variables

## Joint CDF



# Statistically independent random variables

## Statistically independent events

$$P[(X = x) \cap (Y = y)] = P(X = x)P(Y = y)$$

For two S.I. discrete random variables  $X, Y$

$$p_{XY}(x, y) = p_X(x) p_Y(y)$$

For two S.I. continuous random variables  $X, Y$

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x) f_Y(y)$$



## Expectations – random vectors

### Expectation of a function

- Discrete random variable  $E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_{\forall x_i} \sum_{\forall y_i} g(x_i, y_i) \cdot p_{XY}(x_i, y_i)$
- Continuous random variable  $E[g(X, Y)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, y) \cdot f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy$

### Mean vector

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_X = E[\mathbf{X}] = [\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n]^T$$

### Covariance

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}[X, Y] &= E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)] \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

## Expectations – random vectors

**Covariance matrix**

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Var}[X_1] & \text{Cov}[X_1, X_2] & \dots & \text{Cov}[X_1, X_n] \\ & \text{Var}[X_2] & \dots & \text{Cov}[X_2, X_n] \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{symmetric} & & & \text{Var}[X_n] \end{bmatrix}$$

**Correlation coefficient**

$$\rho_{XY} = \frac{\text{Cov}[X, Y]}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}, \quad -1 \leq \rho_{XY} \leq 1$$

Covariance and correlation coefficient measure the linear dependence between two random variables

Two random random variables are **uncorrelated** if  $\rho_{XY} = 0$

## Multinormal distribution

Defined through the mean vector and covariance matrix  $\mathbf{X} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$

Joint PDF: 
$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} (\det \boldsymbol{\Sigma})^{1/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right]$$

### Some properties of the multinormal distribution:

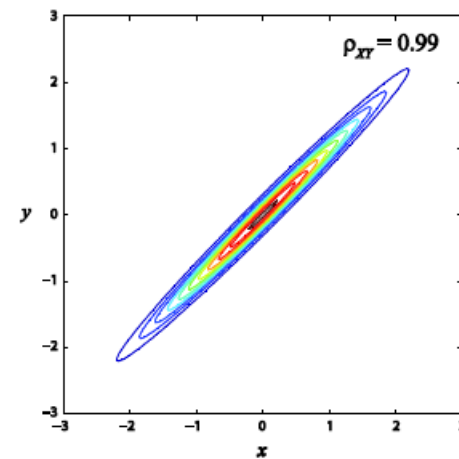
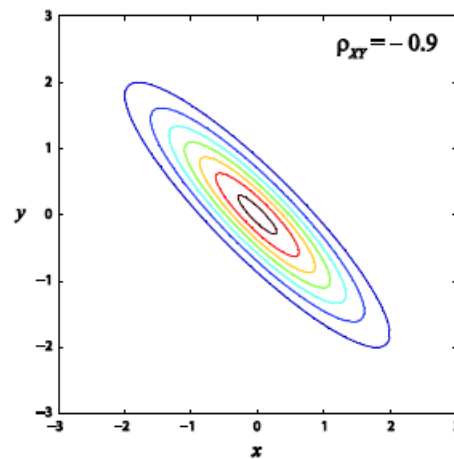
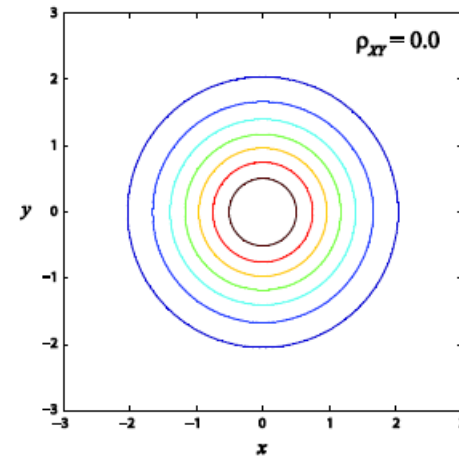
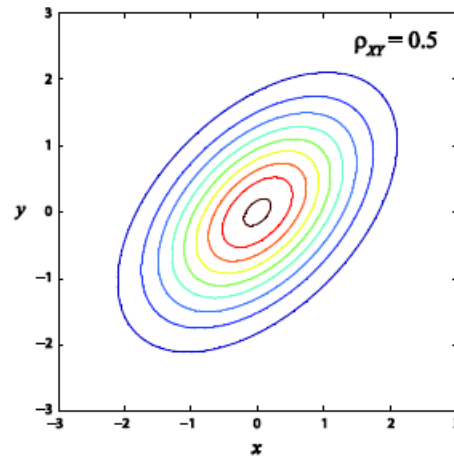
- Linear functions of normal random vectors are normal

$$\mathbf{X} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b} \sim N(\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{A}^T)$$

- Uncorrelated normal random variables are also independent!

# Multinormal distribution

*Binormal distribution with varying correlation coefficients*



## Central limit theorem

Consider a set of i.i.d. random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  with means  $\mu$  and st. dev.  $\sigma$

i.i.d.: Independent and identically distributed

The random variable

$$Y = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

converges in distribution to the normal distribution with mean  $\mu$  and st. dev.  $\sigma/n^{1/2}$

## Transformation of random variables

Consider a random variables  $X$  with CDF  $F_X(x)$  and a random variables  $Y$  with CDF  $F_Y(y)$

Set

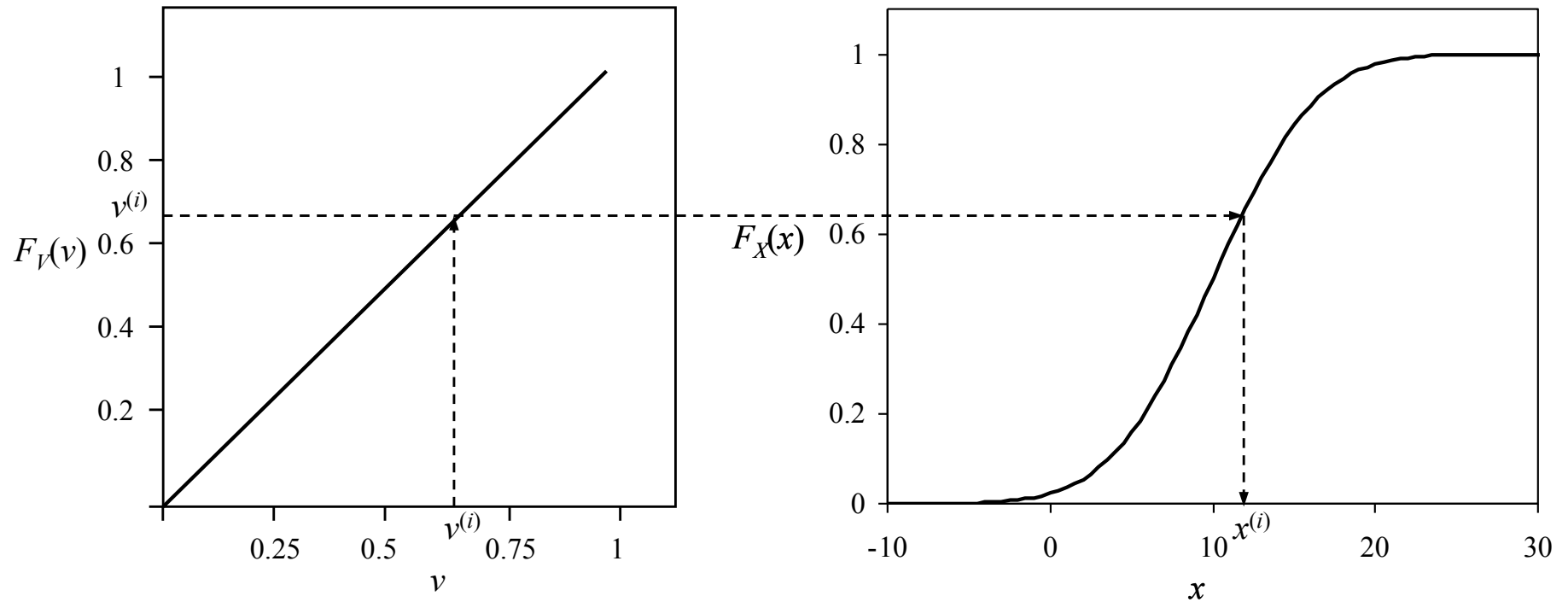
$$F_X(x) = F_Y(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow x = F_X^{-1}[F_Y(y)]$$

Isoprobabilistic transformation
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# Transformation of random variables

## Sampling from a normal distribution



## Random fields

**Random field** – A collection of random variables indexed by a spatial parameter

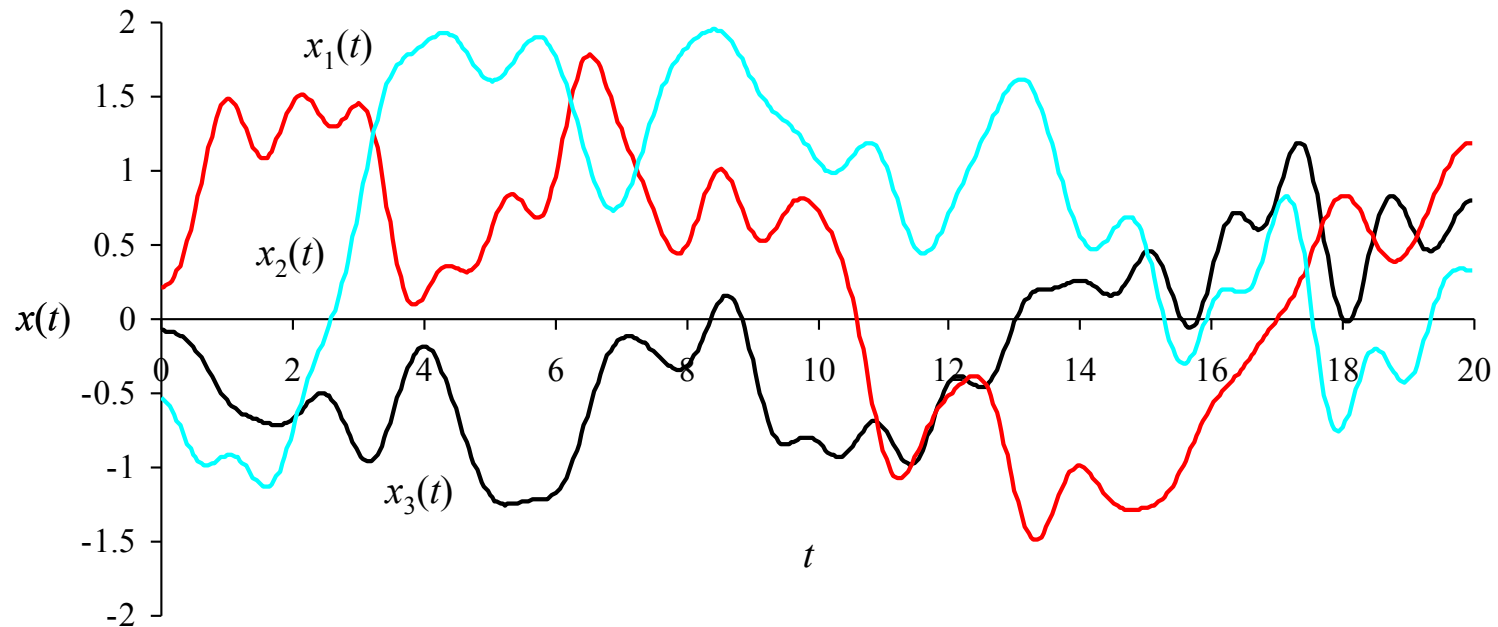
Let  $X(\mathbf{z})$  be a random field, where  $\mathbf{z}$  is a location parameter

- For every  $\mathbf{z}_i$ ,  $X(\mathbf{z}_i)$  is a random variable
- A random outcome (realization or sample function) of the random field is a spatial function denoted  $x(\mathbf{z})$



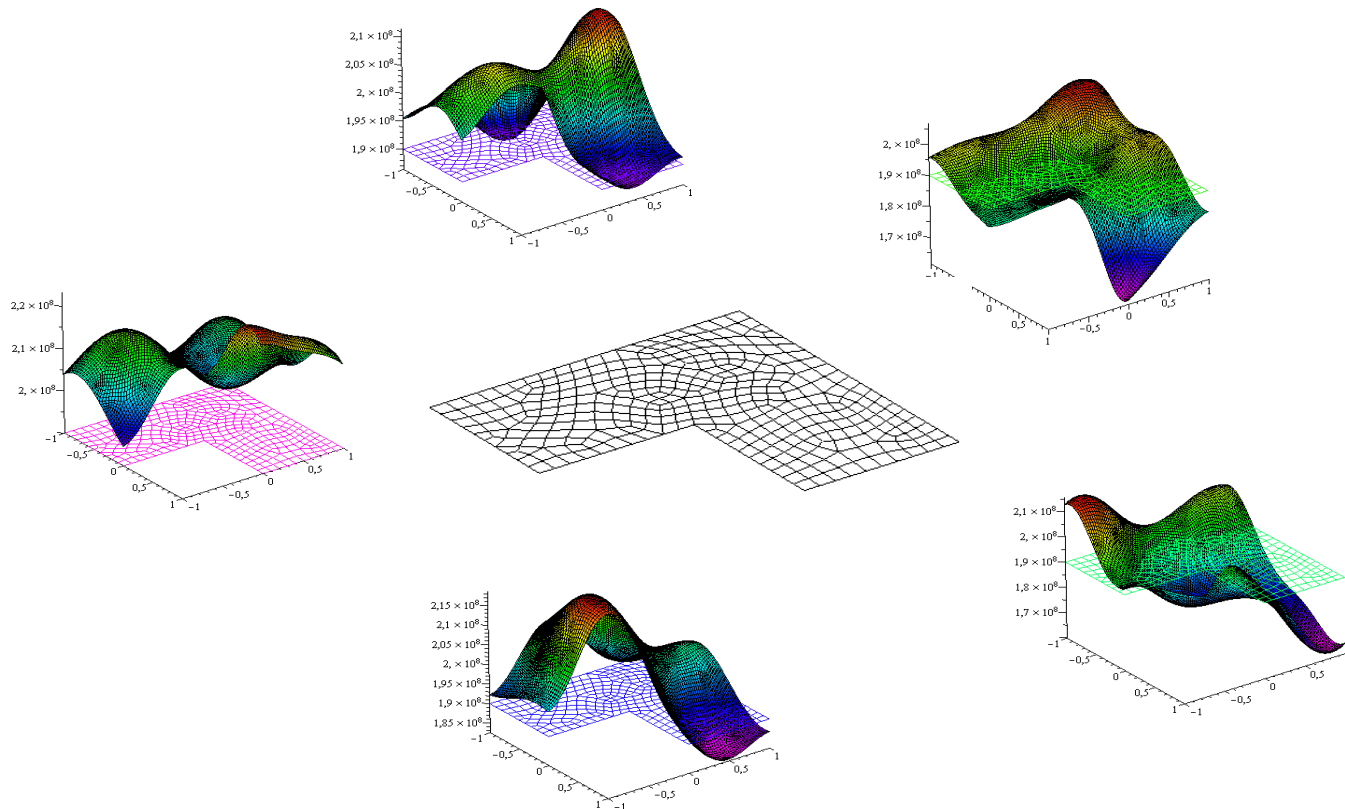
# Random fields

## Sample functions of a 1D random field



# Random fields

## Sample functions of a 2D random field



## Random fields

A random field can be treated as a collection of random vectors

We can define finite-dimensional distributions, e.g.

- First order (marginal) PDF:  $f_{X(\mathbf{z})}(x, \mathbf{z})$
- Second-order PDF:  $f_{X(\mathbf{z}_1)X(\mathbf{z}_2)}(x_1, \mathbf{z}_1; x_2, \mathbf{z}_2)$

## Moment functions of random fields

Mean function:  $\mu_X(\mathbf{z}) = E[X(\mathbf{z})]$

Variance function:  $\sigma_X^2(\mathbf{z}) = E[(X(\mathbf{z}) - \mu_X(\mathbf{z}))^2]$

Auto-covariance function: 
$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{XX}(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2) &= \text{Cov}[X(\mathbf{z}_1), X(\mathbf{z}_2)] \\ &= E[(X(\mathbf{z}_1) - \mu_X(\mathbf{z}_1))(X(\mathbf{z}_2) - \mu_X(\mathbf{z}_2))]\end{aligned}$$

Auto-correlation coefficient function: 
$$\rho_{XX}(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2) = \frac{\Gamma_{XX}(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2)}{\sigma_X(\mathbf{z}_1)\sigma_X(\mathbf{z}_2)}$$

## Homogeneous random field

### Strictly homogeneous random field:

The joint distributions of  $X(\mathbf{z}_1), X(\mathbf{z}_2), \dots, X(\mathbf{z}_n)$  and  $X(\mathbf{z}_1+\boldsymbol{\zeta}), X(\mathbf{z}_2+\boldsymbol{\zeta}), \dots, X(\mathbf{z}_n+\boldsymbol{\zeta})$  are the same for any  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$

### Weakly homogeneous random field:

- The mean function is constant:  $\mu_X(\mathbf{z}) \rightarrow \mu_X$
- The auto-covariance function depends on the difference in location:

$$\Gamma_{XX}(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2) \rightarrow \Gamma_{XX}(\mathbf{z}_1 - \mathbf{z}_2) = \Gamma_{XX}(\boldsymbol{\zeta})$$

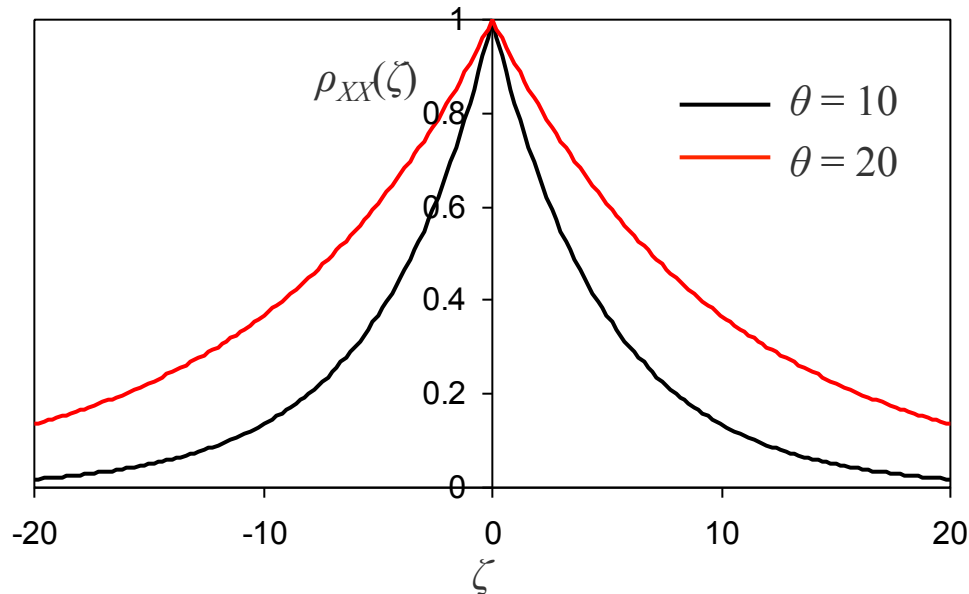
**Note:** A weakly homogeneous Gaussian random field is also strictly homogeneous

# Homogeneous random field

## Exponential correlation model

$$\rho(\xi) = \exp\left(-\frac{2|\xi|}{\theta}\right)$$

$\theta$ : Scale of fluctuation



Sample functions

