

# Advancing Multi-Fidelity Computer Experiments: Applications to Uncertainty Quantification

Chih-Li Sung

Department of Statistics and Probability  
Michigan State University

U. of South Carolina, Department of Statistics, January 23, 2025



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

# Outline

1 Introduction to UQ and Digital Twins

2 Multi-Fidelity Computer Experiments

- Stacking Designs
- Active Learning for Recursive Non-Additive (RNA) Emulator

3 Conclusion

# Digital Twins

- The term **digital twins** has been getting much attention in engineering and manufacturing for a few years as companies realize the potential of virtually replicating a real-world environment.
- The global market for **digital twins** in industry alone is projected to grow to \$156 billion by 2030.

## **NSF 24-559: Mathematical Foundations of Digital Twins**

### **Program Solicitation**

#### **Document Information**

##### **Document History**

- **Posted:** March 22, 2024

[Download the solicitation \(PDF, 0.8mb\)](#)[View the program page](#)**National Science Foundation**

Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Division of Mathematical Sciences

Directorate for Engineering

Division of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation



Air Force Office of Scientific Research

# What Are Digital Twins

- A digital twin is a real-time virtual representation of a physical object or system.
- It simulates and monitors real-world processes, enabling control, testing, and optimization without physical risks.

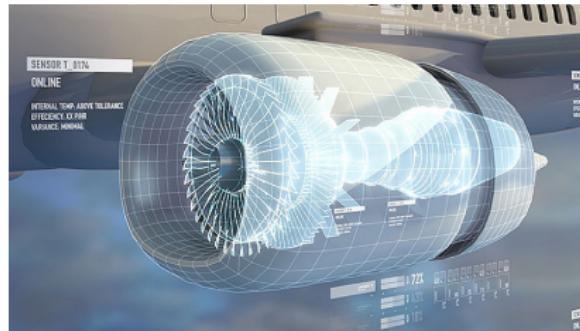
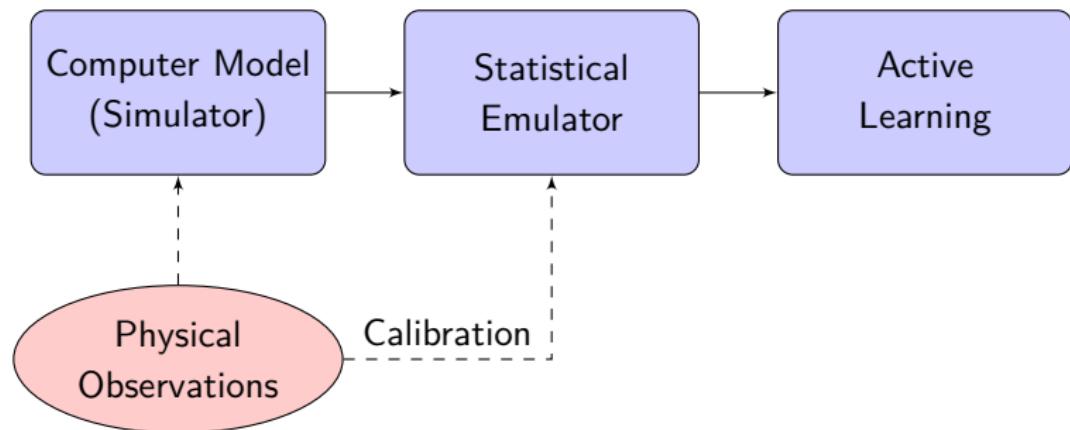


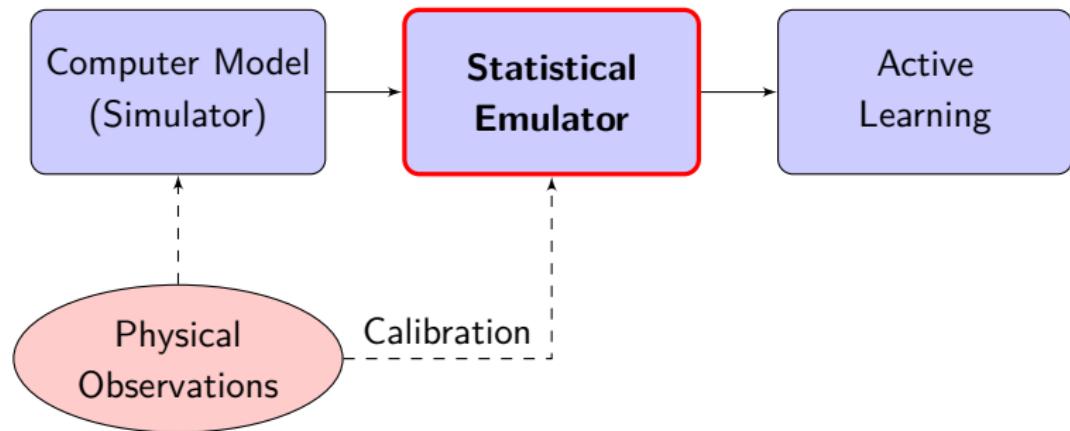
Figure: *Digital twin of an aircraft engine used to monitor performance and troubleshoot issues in real time. Credit: GE.*

# Uncertainty Quantification (UQ)

- Uncertainty Quantification (UQ) is a critical component that powers the accuracy and reliability of digital twins.

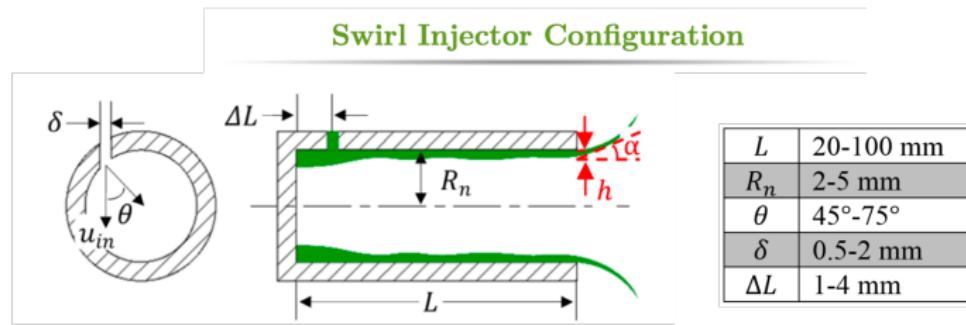


# Statistical Emulator/ Surrogate Model



# Rocket Injector Simulator

- We consider here a **simplex swirl injector system** for liquid-propellant rocket engines.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Mak, Sung, et al. (2018). An efficient surrogate model for emulation and physics extraction of large eddy simulations. *JASA*.

# Rocket Injector Simulator

- High-fidelity flow simulations are conducted using the **theoretical and numerical framework** for modeling high-pressure mixing and combustion processes.

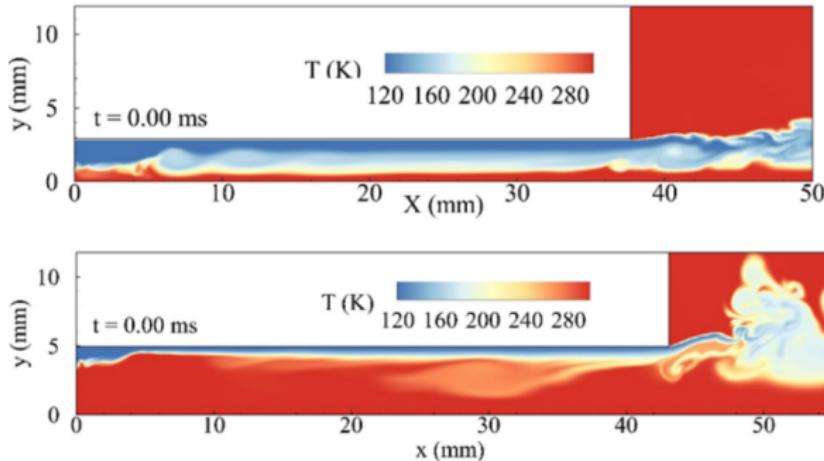


Figure: *Temperature snapshots for two design settings.*

# Rocket Injector Simulator

- A key challenge here is that the high-fidelity flow simulations are **too time-consuming** for design purposes.
- Each simulation requires **28,800 CPU hours** to obtain 1,000 snapshots with time-interval 0.03ms.

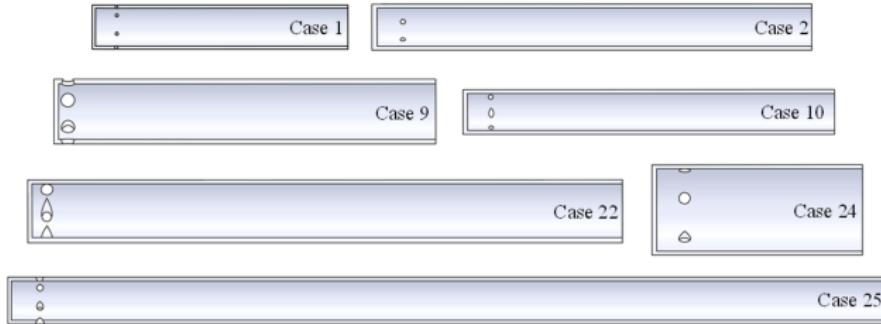


Figure: *Computational domain with different design variables.*

# Statistical Emulator/ Surrogate Model

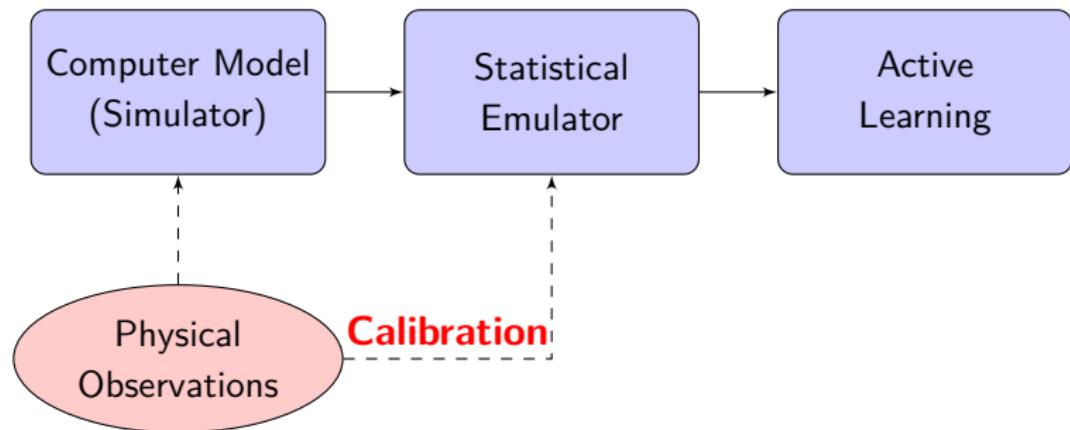
- A statistical emulator, also known as a surrogate model, is constructed to approximate the output of a complex simulator.
- The goal is to “emulate” the true simulator, including the uncertainty in the approximation:

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \approx f(\mathbf{x}),$$

where  $f(\mathbf{x})$  represents the true simulator, with  $\mathbf{x}$  as the input (e.g., design variables), and  $\hat{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is the emulator/surrogate model.

- Gaussian Processes (GPs) are widely used for building such emulators due to their flexibility and ability to quantify uncertainty.

# Model Calibration



# Model Calibration

- Computer models are useful for simulating complex systems, but how do we ensure they accurately represent reality?
- **Calibration** aligns the computer model's output with real-world observations, making it more reliable.

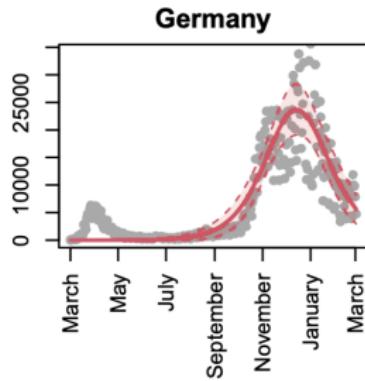
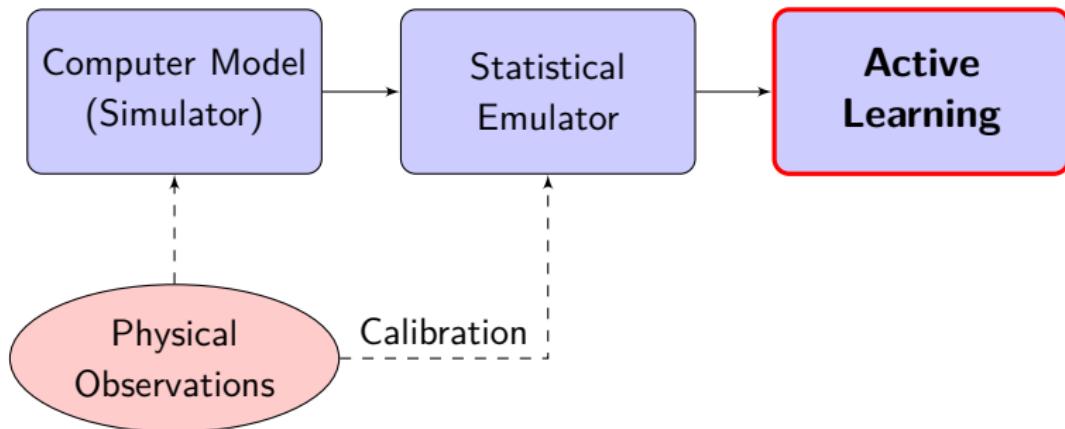


Figure: *Calibration of COVID-19 model.<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>2</sup>Sung and Hung (2024). Efficient calibration for imperfect epidemic models with applications to the analysis of COVID-19. *JRSSC*.

# Active Learning

- How can we enhance the accuracy of the statistical emulator?
- By strategically selecting “informative” samples  $x_i$ , we can improve the emulator’s performance,  $\hat{f}(x)$ .



- In the following, I will present two recent works that demonstrate advancements in active learning techniques.



Sung, C.-L., Ji, Y., Mak, S., Wang, W., and Tang, T. (2024)

**Stacking designs:** designing multifidelity computer experiments with target predictive accuracy, *JUQ*, 12(1), 157-181.

# Motivated Example: Finite Element Simulations

- Thermal stress of jet engine turbine blade can be analyzed through a static structural computer model.
- The model can be *numerically* solved via finite element method.

# Motivated Example: Finite Element Simulations

- Thermal stress of jet engine turbine blade can be analyzed through a static structural computer model.
- The model can be *numerically* solved via finite element method.
- **Input:**  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) = (\text{pressure}, \text{suction})$

# Motivated Example: Finite Element Simulations

- Thermal stress of jet engine turbine blade can be analyzed through a static structural computer model.
- The model can be *numerically* solved via finite element method.
- **Input:**  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) = (\text{pressure}, \text{suction})$
- **Output:**  $f(\mathbf{x})$ : average of thermal stress
- e.g.,  $\mathbf{x} = (0.23, 0.71)$

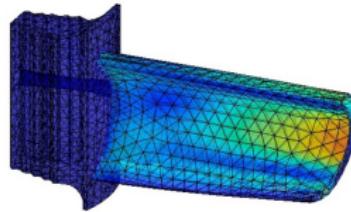
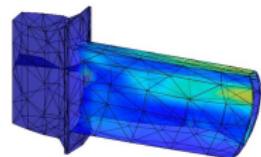


Figure: average of thermal stress  $f(0.23, 0.71) = 10.5$

# Multi-Fidelity Simulations via Mesh Configuration

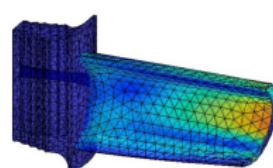
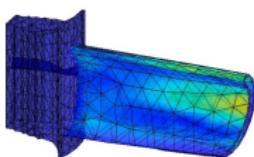
less accurate but cheaper

$$\mathbf{x} = (0.50, 0.50)$$

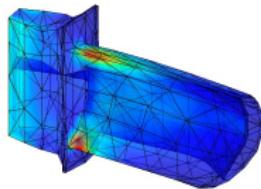


accurate but expensive

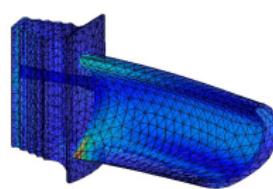
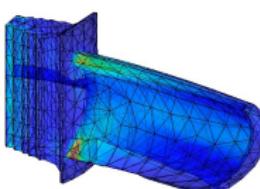
Simulation accuracy



$$\mathbf{x} = (0.23, 0.71)$$



Simulation cost

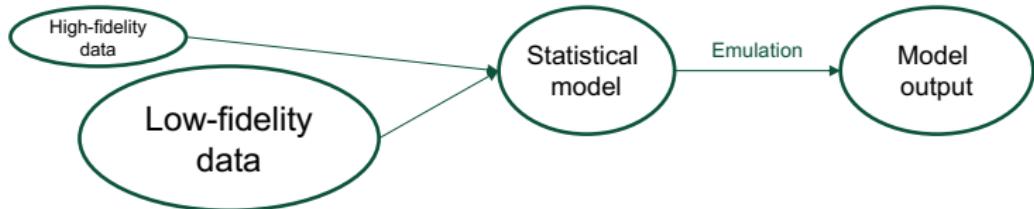


# Statistical Emulation

- Can we leverage both low- and high-fidelity simulations in order to

# Statistical Emulation

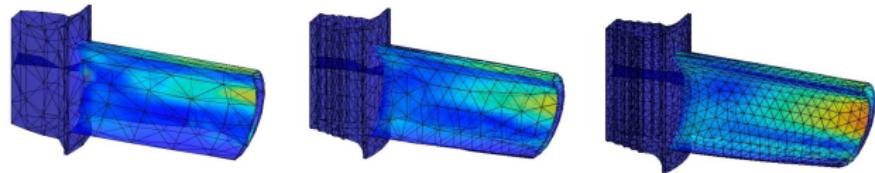
- Can we leverage both low- and high-fidelity simulations in order to
  - maximize the accuracy of model predictions,
  - while minimizing the cost associated with the simulations?



# Notation

fidelity level	1	2	3
output	$f_1(\mathbf{x})$	$f_2(\mathbf{x})$	$f_3(\mathbf{x})$
mesh size	$h_1$	$>$	$h_2$
cost	$C_1$	$<$	$C_2$
			$C_3$

$\mathbf{x} = (0.50, 0.50)$



# Existing Methods

- Modeling:

- Co-kriging or Auto-Regressive (AR) model<sup>3</sup>:

$$f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \rho_{l-1} f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}) + Z_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}), \quad l = 2, \dots, L$$

where both  $f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})$  and  $Z_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})$  follow Gaussian Process (GP) priors.

- GP priors are commonly used in the Bayesian framework to model unknown functions.
  - The posterior of the auto-regressive model is a **normal distribution** with closed-form posterior mean and variance.

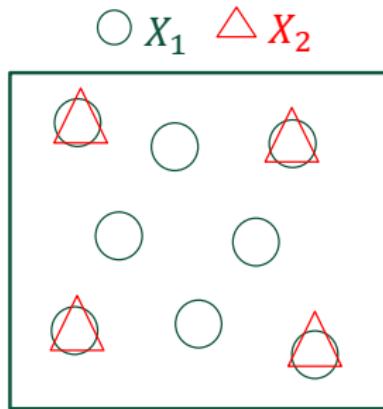
---

<sup>3</sup>Kennedy and O'Hagan (2000). Predicting the output from a complex computer code when fast approximations are available. *Biometrika*

# Existing Methods

- Experimental Design (**Nested Space-Filling Design**):

$$X_L \subseteq X_{L-1} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq X_1$$



- This design improves computational efficiency because it allows us to compute the difference between any two levels (i.e.,  $f_l(X_l) - f_{l-1}(X_l)$ ).

# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  when  $h_\infty \rightarrow 0$ ?<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup>Tuo, Wu, and Yu (2014). Surrogate modeling of computer experiments with different mesh densities. *Technometrics*

# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  when  $h_\infty \rightarrow 0$ ?<sup>4</sup>
- Q2: Sample size of each level?

---

<sup>4</sup>Tuo, Wu, and Yu (2014). Surrogate modeling of computer experiments with different mesh densities. *Technometrics*

# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  when  $h_\infty \rightarrow 0$ ?<sup>4</sup>
- Q2: Sample size of each level?
- Q3: How many fidelity levels?

---

<sup>4</sup>Tuo, Wu, and Yu (2014). Surrogate modeling of computer experiments with different mesh densities. *Technometrics*

# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  when  $h_\infty \rightarrow 0$ ?<sup>4</sup>
- Q2: Sample size of each level?
- Q3: How many fidelity levels?
- Q4: Mesh size/density specification?

---

<sup>4</sup>Tuo, Wu, and Yu (2014). Surrogate modeling of computer experiments with different mesh densities. *Technometrics*

# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  when  $h_\infty \rightarrow 0$ ?<sup>4</sup>
- Q2: Sample size of each level?
- Q3: How many fidelity levels?
- Q4: Mesh size/density specification?
- Q5: Is it better than single-fidelity simulation?

---

<sup>4</sup>Tuo, Wu, and Yu (2014). Surrogate modeling of computer experiments with different mesh densities. *Technometrics*

# Multi-Level Interpolator

- Emulator: Multi-Level (ML) interpolator
- Goal: Emulate  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$

# Multi-Level Interpolator

- Emulator: Multi-Level (ML) interpolator
- Goal: Emulate  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$
- Idea: with  $f_0(\mathbf{x}) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}f_L(\mathbf{x}) &= (f_1(\mathbf{x}) - f_0(\mathbf{x})) + (f_2(\mathbf{x}) - f_1(\mathbf{x})) + \cdots + (f_L(\mathbf{x}) - f_{L-1}(\mathbf{x})) \\&:= Z_1(\mathbf{x}) + Z_2(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + Z_L(\mathbf{x}),\end{aligned}$$

where  $Z_l(\mathbf{x}) := (f_l(\mathbf{x}) - f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}))$ .

- Assume the data is nested  $X_L \subseteq X_{L-1} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq X_1$

# Multi-Level Interpolator

- Emulator: Multi-Level (ML) interpolator
- Goal: Emulate  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$
- Idea: with  $f_0(\mathbf{x}) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}f_L(\mathbf{x}) &= (f_1(\mathbf{x}) - f_0(\mathbf{x})) + (f_2(\mathbf{x}) - f_1(\mathbf{x})) + \cdots + (f_L(\mathbf{x}) - f_{L-1}(\mathbf{x})) \\&:= Z_1(\mathbf{x}) + Z_2(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + Z_L(\mathbf{x}),\end{aligned}$$

where  $Z_l(\mathbf{x}) := (f_l(\mathbf{x}) - f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}))$ .

- Assume the data is nested  $X_L \subseteq X_{L-1} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq X_1$
- $Z_l(\mathbf{x})$  is observed at the nested sites  $X_l$ , that is,

$$Z_l(X_l) = f_l(X_l) - f_{l-1}(X_l).$$

# Multi-Level Interpolator

- The reproducing kernel Hilbert space (RKHS) interpolator for each  $Z_I(\mathbf{x}) = (f_I(\mathbf{x}) - f_{I-1}(\mathbf{x}))$  is

$$\hat{Z}_I(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi_I(\mathbf{x}, X_I)\Phi_I(X_I, X_I)^{-1}Z(X_I),$$

where  $\Phi_I$  is a positive definite kernel function.

# Multi-Level Interpolator

- The reproducing kernel Hilbert space (RKHS) interpolator for each  $Z_I(\mathbf{x}) = (f_I(\mathbf{x}) - f_{I-1}(\mathbf{x}))$  is

$$\hat{Z}_I(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi_I(\mathbf{x}, X_I)\Phi_I(X_I, X_I)^{-1}Z(X_I),$$

where  $\Phi_I$  is a positive definite kernel function.

- ML Interpolator:

$$\hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{Z}_1(\mathbf{x}) + \hat{Z}_2(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + \hat{Z}_L(\mathbf{x}).$$

# Matérn kernel

**Assumption:** Matérn kernel  $\Phi$

$$\Phi_I(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \phi_I(\|\theta_I \odot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')\|_2)$$

with

$$\phi_I(r) = \frac{\sigma_I^2}{\Gamma(\nu_I)2^{\nu_I-1}}(2\sqrt{\nu_I}r)_I^\nu B_{\nu_I}(2\sqrt{\nu_I}r),$$

- $\nu_I$ : smoothness parameter
- $\theta_I$ : lengthscale parameter
- $\sigma_I^2$ : scalar parameter
- $B_\nu$ : the modified Bessel function of the second kind
- Parameters can be estimated via either CV or MLE (by a GP assumption)

# Error Analysis of ML Interpolator

- ML Interpolator  $\hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{Z}_1(\mathbf{x}) + \hat{Z}_2(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + \hat{Z}_L(\mathbf{x})$
- Recall our goal is to emulate  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$

# Error Analysis of ML Interpolator

- ML Interpolator  $\hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{Z}_1(\mathbf{x}) + \hat{Z}_2(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + \hat{Z}_L(\mathbf{x})$
- Recall our goal is to emulate  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$

$$|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})| \leq \underbrace{|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_L(\mathbf{x})|}_{\text{simulation error}} + \underbrace{|f_L(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})|}_{\text{emulation error}}.$$

# Error Analysis of ML Interpolator

- ML Interpolator  $\hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{Z}_1(\mathbf{x}) + \hat{Z}_2(\mathbf{x}) + \cdots + \hat{Z}_L(\mathbf{x})$
- Recall our goal is to emulate  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$

$$|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})| \leq \underbrace{|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_L(\mathbf{x})|}_{\text{simulation error}} + \underbrace{|f_L(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})|}_{\text{emulation error}}.$$

- (analogue to statistical learning)

# Idea of Stacking Design

- Given a desired accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$

# Idea of Stacking Design

- Given a desired accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$
- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\| < \epsilon$  (i.e., with target predictive accuracy!)

# Idea of Stacking Design

- Given a desired accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$
- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\| < \epsilon$  (i.e., with target predictive accuracy!)

$$\|f_\infty - f_L\| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$



determine  $L$

$$\|f_L - \hat{f}_L\| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$



determine sample sizes  $n_l$



Stacking Design

# Control emulation error $\|f_L - \hat{f}_L\|$

## Proposition 1: Emulation error

Suppose that

- the input space is  $d$ -dimensional and is bounded and convex,
- $X_I$  is **quasi-uniform** with sample size  $n_I$ ,

Then,

$$|f_L(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})| \leq c \sum_{l=1}^L \|\theta_l\|_2^{\nu_l} n_l^{-\nu_l/d} \|f_l - f_{l-1}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)},$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)}$  is the RKHS norm.

# Sample size determination $n_l$

- Sample size  $n_l$  can be determined by minimizing the **error bound** and the **total cost** by the method of Lagrange multipliers

$$\sum_{l=1}^L \|\theta_l\|_2^{\nu_{\min}} n_l^{-\nu_{\min}/d} \|f_l - f_{l-1}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)} + \lambda \sum_{l=1}^L n_l C_l,$$

where  $\nu_{\min} = \min_{l=1,\dots,L} \nu_l$ , which gives

# Sample size determination $n_l$

- Sample size  $n_l$  can be determined by minimizing the **error bound** and the **total cost** by the method of Lagrange multipliers

$$\sum_{l=1}^L \|\theta_l\|_2^{\nu_{\min}} n_l^{-\nu_{\min}/d} \|f_l - f_{l-1}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)} + \lambda \sum_{l=1}^L n_l C_l,$$

where  $\nu_{\min} = \min_{l=1,\dots,L} \nu_l$ , which gives

$$n_l = \mu \left( \frac{\|\theta_l\|_2^{\nu_{\min}}}{C_l} \|f_l - f_{l-1}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)} \right)^{d/(\nu_{\min}+d)}$$

for some constant  $\mu > 0$ .

# Sample size determination $n_l$

- Sample size  $n_l$  can be determined by minimizing the **error bound** and the **total cost** by the method of Lagrange multipliers

$$\sum_{l=1}^L \|\theta_l\|_2^{\nu_{\min}} n_l^{-\nu_{\min}/d} \|f_l - f_{l-1}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)} + \lambda \sum_{l=1}^L n_l C_l,$$

where  $\nu_{\min} = \min_{l=1,\dots,L} \nu_l$ , which gives

$$n_l = \mu \left( \frac{\|\theta_l\|^{\nu_{\min}}}{C_l} \|f_l - f_{l-1}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\Phi_l}(\Omega)} \right)^{d/(\nu_{\min}+d)}$$

for some constant  $\mu > 0$ .

- Find  $\mu$  such that  $\|f_L - \hat{f}_L\| < \epsilon/2$

# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$ ?  $\hat{f}_L$
- Q2: Sample size of each level?  $n_l$
- Q3: How many fidelity levels?
- Q4: Mesh size/density specification?
- Q5: Is it better than single-fidelity simulation?

# Control Simulation Error $\|f_\infty - f_L\|$

## Error Rate of Finite Element Simulations

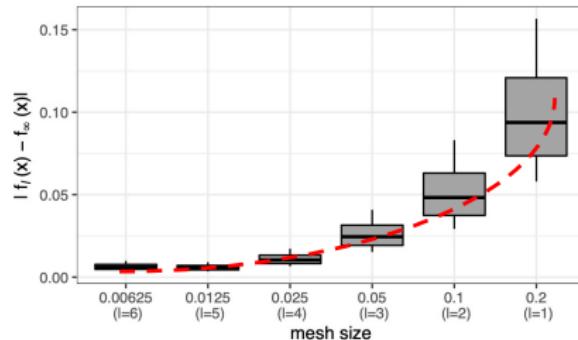
Under some regularity conditions, for a constant  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}$ ,<sup>a</sup>

$$|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_L(\mathbf{x})| < c(\mathbf{x})h_L^\alpha.$$

Recall  $h_L$  is the mesh size.

---

<sup>a</sup>Tuo, Wu, and Yu (2014). Surrogate modeling of computer experiments with different mesh densities. *Technometrics*



# Determine the fidelity level $L$

- Let  $h_l = h_0 2^{-l}$  where  $h_0/2$  is the mesh size of the lowest fidelity simulator  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ .

# Determine the fidelity level $L$

- Let  $h_L = h_0 2^{-l}$  where  $h_0/2$  is the mesh size of the lowest fidelity simulator  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ .
- Suppose  $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_L(\mathbf{x})| = c_1(\mathbf{x})h_L^\alpha + O(h_L^{\alpha+1})$

# Determine the fidelity level $L$

- Let  $h_L = h_0 2^{-L}$  where  $h_0/2$  is the mesh size of the lowest fidelity simulator  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ .
- Suppose  $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_L(\mathbf{x})| = c_1(\mathbf{x})h_L^\alpha + O(h_L^{\alpha+1})$
- One can show that

$$\|f_\infty - f_L\| = \frac{\|f_L - f_{L-1}\|}{2^\alpha - 1},$$

assuming that the terms of order  $h_L^{\alpha+1}$  and higher can be neglected.

- $\|f_L - f_{L-1}\|$  can be approximated by  $\|\hat{Z}_L\|$ .

# Determine the fidelity level $L$

- Let  $h_L = h_0 2^{-L}$  where  $h_0/2$  is the mesh size of the lowest fidelity simulator  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ .
- Suppose  $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_L(\mathbf{x})| = c_1(\mathbf{x})h_L^\alpha + O(h_L^{\alpha+1})$
- One can show that

$$\|f_\infty - f_L\| = \frac{\|f_L - f_{L-1}\|}{2^\alpha - 1},$$

assuming that the terms of order  $h_L^{\alpha+1}$  and higher can be neglected.

- $\|f_L - f_{L-1}\|$  can be approximated by  $\|\hat{Z}_L\|$ .
- Find  $L$  that ensures  $\frac{\|\hat{Z}_L\|}{2^\alpha - 1} \leq \epsilon/2$

# Determination of $\alpha$

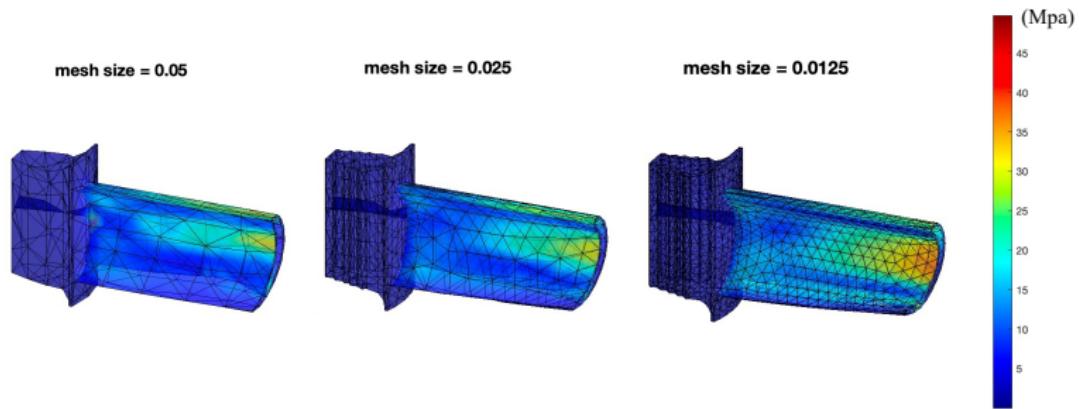
- $\alpha$  can be determined by collected data (can be done only when  $L \geq 3$ ) (details omitted)

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{L-2} \sum_{l=3}^L \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in X_l} \frac{\log \left( \left| \frac{f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}) - f_{l-2}(\mathbf{x})}{f_l(\mathbf{x}) - f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})} \right| \right)}{n_l \log 2}.$$

# Questions

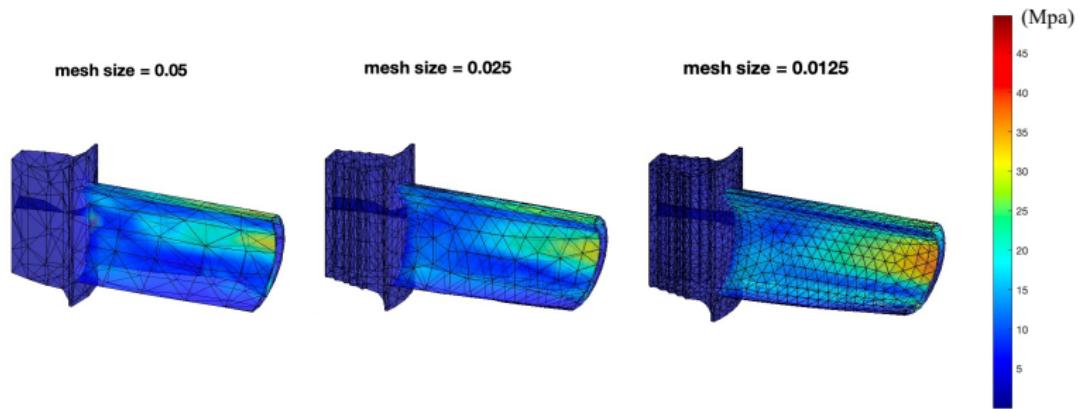
- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$ ?  $\hat{f}_L$
- Q2: Sample size of each level?  $n_l$
- Q3: How many fidelity levels?  $L$
- Q4: Mesh size/density specification?  $h_l = h_0 2^{-l}$
- Q5: Is it better than single-fidelity simulation?

# Revisit Motivated Example



- **Input:**  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) = (\text{pressure}, \text{suction})$
- **Output:**  $f(\mathbf{x})$ : average of thermal stress

# Revisit Motivated Example



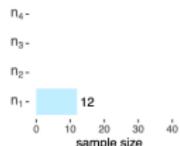
- **Input:**  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) = (\text{pressure}, \text{suction})$
- **Output:**  $f(\mathbf{x})$ : average of thermal stress
- **Test data:** Simulations with mesh size  $h \approx 0$  at 20 uniform test input locations are conducted to examine the performance

# Revisit Motivated Example

- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} < \epsilon = 5$

# Revisit Motivated Example

- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} < \epsilon = 5$



stage    1    2    3    4

$$L = 1$$

$$h_L \quad 0.05$$

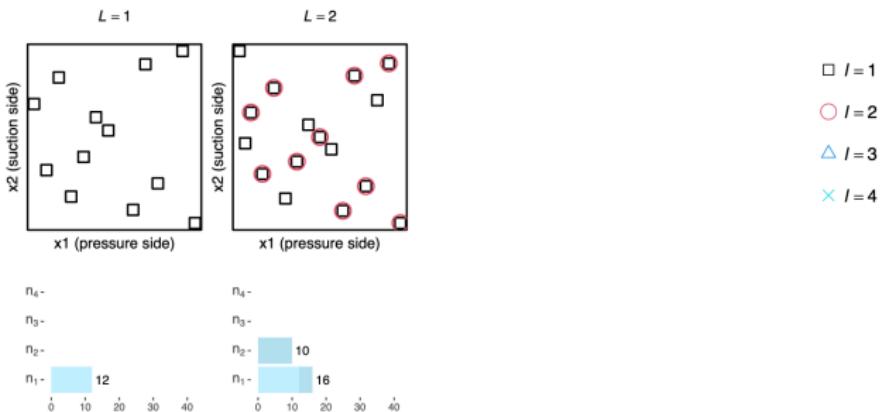
$$C_L \text{ (sec.)} \quad 0.75$$

$$\|f_L - \hat{f}_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} \quad 2.324$$

$$\|f_\infty - f_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} \quad \text{NA}$$

# Revisit Motivated Example

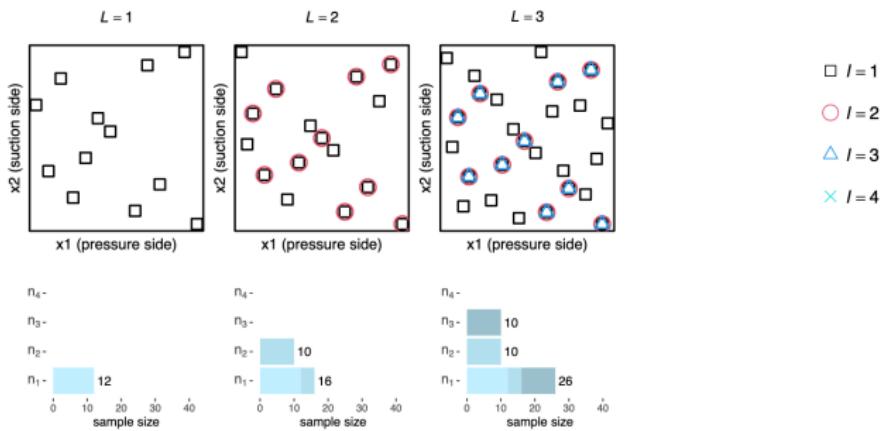
- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} < \epsilon = 5$



	$L = 1$	$L = 2$
$h_L$	0.05	0.025
$C_L$ (sec.)	0.75	1.07
$\ f_L - \hat{f}_L\ _{L_2(\Omega)}$	2.324	2.408
$\ f_\infty - f_L\ _{L_2(\Omega)}$	NA	NA

# Revisit Motivated Example

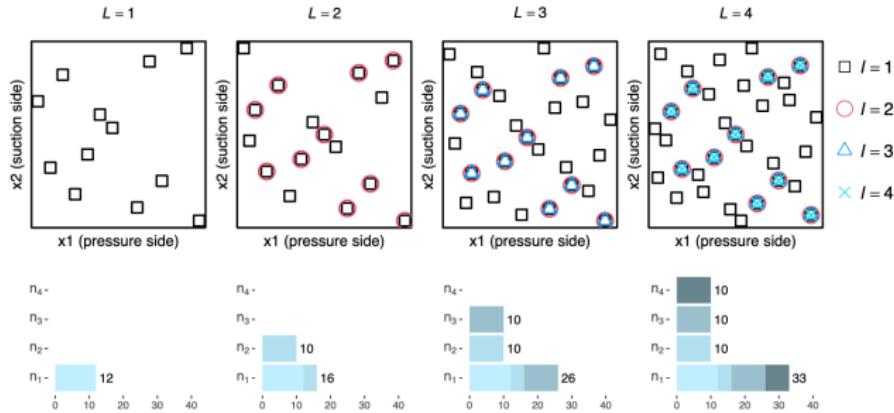
- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} < \epsilon = 5$



	$L = 1$	$L = 2$	$L = 3$
$h_L$	0.05	0.025	0.0125
$C_L$ (sec.)	0.75	1.07	2.13
$\ f_L - \hat{f}_L\ _{L_2(\Omega)}$	2.324	2.408	2.481
$\ f_\infty - f_L\ _{L_2(\Omega)}$	NA	NA	2.969

# Revisit Motivated Example

- We wish  $\|f_\infty - \hat{f}_L\|_{L_2(\Omega)} < \epsilon = 5$



RMSE of  $\hat{f}_4$   
= 1.60

	$L = 1$	$L = 2$	$L = 3$	$L = 4$
$h_L$	0.05	0.025	0.0125	0.00625
$C_L$ (sec.)	0.75	1.07	2.13	11.51
$\ \hat{f}_L - f_L\ _{L_2(\Omega)}$	2.324	2.408	2.481	2.491
$\ f_\infty - f_L\ _{L_2(\Omega)}$	NA	NA	2.969	0.956

$$< \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

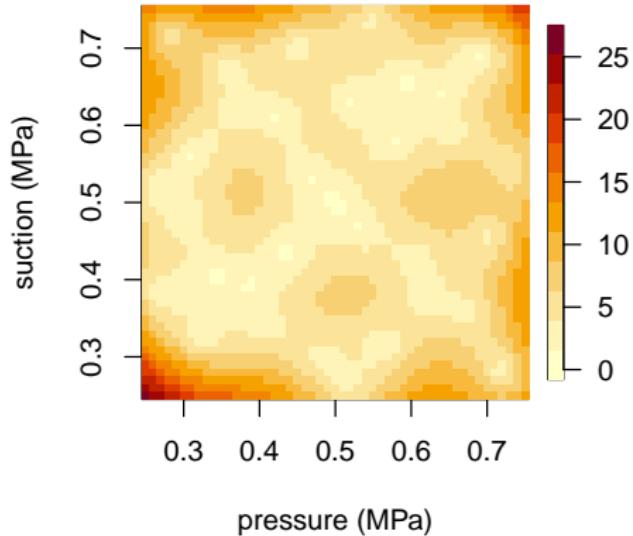
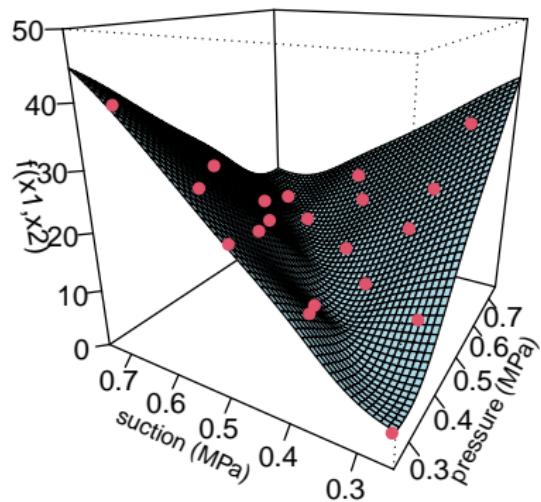
Visualize  $\hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})$ 

Figure: (left)  $\hat{f}_4(\mathbf{x})$  and true test points (red dots); (right) pointwise error bounds

# Cost Complexity Theorem

## Theorem

Suppose that

- $\nu := \nu_1 = \cdots = \nu_L$
- $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_l(\mathbf{x})| < c_1 2^{-\alpha l}$
- $C_l < c_2 2^{\beta l}$

# Cost Complexity Theorem

## Theorem

Suppose that

- $\nu := \nu_1 = \dots = \nu_L$
- $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_l(\mathbf{x})| < c_1 2^{-\alpha l}$
- $C_l < c_2 2^{\beta l}$

Under some regularity conditions, it follows that

$$|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_L(\mathbf{x})| < \epsilon,$$

with a **total computational cost**  $C_{\text{tot}}$  bounded by

$$C_{\text{tot}} \leq \begin{cases} c_3 \epsilon^{-\frac{d}{\nu}}, & \frac{\alpha}{\beta} > \frac{2\nu}{d}, \\ c_3 \epsilon^{-\frac{d}{\nu}} |\log \epsilon|^{1+\frac{d}{\nu}}, & \frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{2\nu}{d}, \\ c_3 \epsilon^{-\frac{d}{\nu} - \frac{2\beta\nu - \alpha d}{2\alpha(\nu+d)}}, & \frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d}. \end{cases}$$

# Complexity of Single-Fidelity Interpolator

## Corollary

- Let  $\hat{f}_H(x)$  be the RKHS interpolator based on single-fidelity data  $(X_H, f_H(X_H))$

# Complexity of Single-Fidelity Interpolator

## Corollary

- Let  $\hat{f}_H(x)$  be the RKHS interpolator based on single-fidelity data  $(X_H, f_H(X_H))$
- Suppose that  $(\epsilon/2)^{1+\frac{\alpha d}{2\nu\beta}} \leq c_1 h_H^\alpha \leq \epsilon/2$ , where  $c_1 = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega} c_1(\mathbf{x})$

# Complexity of Single-Fidelity Interpolator

## Corollary

- Let  $\hat{f}_H(x)$  be the RKHS interpolator based on single-fidelity data  $(X_H, f_H(X_H))$
- Suppose that  $(\epsilon/2)^{1+\frac{\alpha d}{2\nu\beta}} \leq c_1 h_H^\alpha \leq \epsilon/2$ , where  $c_1 = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega} c_1(\mathbf{x})$

Under some regularity conditions, it follows that

$$|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{f}_H(\mathbf{x})| < \epsilon,$$

with a **total computational cost**  $C_H$  bounded by

$$C_H \leq c_h \epsilon^{-\frac{\beta}{\alpha} - \frac{d}{2\nu}}.$$

# Single-fidelity vs Multi-fidelity

- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d}$  ⇒ **ML interpolator** has a slower cost rate

# Single-fidelity vs Multi-fidelity

- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  ML interpolator has a slower cost rate
- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \geq \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  Single-fidelity RKHS interpolator has a slower cost rate

# Single-fidelity vs Multi-fidelity

- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  ML interpolator has a slower cost rate
- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \geq \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  Single-fidelity RKHS interpolator has a slower cost rate
- Example 1:  $\beta$  is small and  $\alpha$  is large

# Single-fidelity vs Multi-fidelity

- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d}$   $\Rightarrow$  ML interpolator has a slower cost rate
- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \geq \frac{2\nu}{d}$   $\Rightarrow$  Single-fidelity RKHS interpolator has a slower cost rate
- Example 1:  $\beta$  is small and  $\alpha$  is large
  - $C_1 = 2.9$  and  $C_5 = 3$
  - $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_1(\mathbf{x})| = 10$ , and  $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_5(\mathbf{x})| = 0.001$

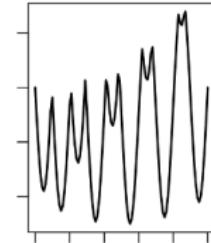
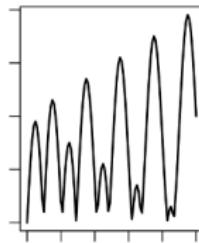
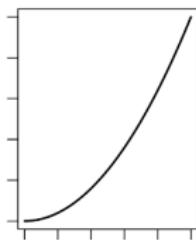
# Single-fidelity vs Multi-fidelity

- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  ML interpolator has a slower cost rate
- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \geq \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  Single-fidelity RKHS interpolator has a slower cost rate
- Example 1:  $\beta$  is small and  $\alpha$  is large
  - $C_1 = 2.9$  and  $C_5 = 3$
  - $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_1(\mathbf{x})| = 10$ , and  $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_5(\mathbf{x})| = 0.001$
- Example 2:  $\nu$  is very small (i.e., nonsmooth ( $f_l - f_{l-1}$ ))

# Single-fidelity vs Multi-fidelity

- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  ML interpolator has a slower cost rate
- When  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \geq \frac{2\nu}{d} \Rightarrow$  Single-fidelity RKHS interpolator has a slower cost rate
- Example 1:  $\beta$  is small and  $\alpha$  is large
  - $C_1 = 2.9$  and  $C_5 = 3$
  - $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_1(\mathbf{x})| = 10$ , and  $|f_\infty(\mathbf{x}) - f_5(\mathbf{x})| = 0.001$
- Example 2:  $\nu$  is very small (i.e., nonsmooth  $(f_l - f_{l-1})$ )

$$f_{\text{high}}(x) = f_{\text{low}}(x) + (f_{\text{high}}(x) - f_{\text{low}}(x))$$



# Questions

- Q1: How to emulate the exact solution, i.e.,  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$ ?  $\hat{f}_L$
- Q2: Sample size of each level?  $n_l$
- Q3: How many fidelity levels?  $L$
- Q4: Mesh size/density specification?  $h_l = h_0 2^{-l}$
- Q5: Is it better than single-fidelity simulation? In some cases, yes, but not always

# Recall Our Model

- ML Interpolator:

$$Z_l(\mathbf{x}) = f_l(\mathbf{x}) - f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}), \quad l = 2, \dots, L.$$

- How about Auto-Regressive (AR) model<sup>5</sup>:

$$f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \rho_{l-1} f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}) + Z_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}), \quad l = 2, \dots, L$$

where both  $f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})$  and  $Z_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})$  follow Gaussian Process (GP) priors.

---

<sup>5</sup>Kennedy and O'Hagan (2000). Predicting the output from a complex computer code when fast approximations are available. *Biometrika*

# Recall Our Model

- ML Interpolator:

$$Z_l(\mathbf{x}) = f_l(\mathbf{x}) - f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}), \quad l = 2, \dots, L.$$

- How about Auto-Regressive (AR) model<sup>5</sup>:

$$f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \rho_{l-1} f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}) + Z_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}), \quad l = 2, \dots, L$$

where both  $f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})$  and  $Z_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})$  follow Gaussian Process (GP) priors.

- Both rely on an *additive (or linear) structure*.

---

<sup>5</sup>Kennedy and O'Hagan (2000). Predicting the output from a complex computer code when fast approximations are available. *Biometrika*



Heo, J. and **Sung, C.-L.** (2025)

Active learning for a recursive non-additive emulator for multi-fidelity computer experiments, *Technometrics*, to appear.



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY



**Junoh Heo**



**Chih-Li Sung**

# Technometrics

Enter keywords, authors, DOI, etc

Submit an article ▾

About this journal

Browse all articles &amp; issues ▾

Alerts &amp; RSS feed ▾

## Explore articles

Latest

Open access

Most read

Most cited

Trending

Browse the most read articles published in the last year

### Discrepancy Measures for Global Sensitivity Analysis ›

1362 Views

Arnald Puy et al.

Article | Published online: 13 Feb 2024



### Active Learning for a Recursive Non-Additive Emulator for Multi-Fidelity Computer Experiments ›

1326 Views

Junoh Heo et al.

Article | Published online: 17 Sep 2024



### Constrained Bayesian Optimization with Lower Confidence Bound ›

1186 Views

Neelesh S. Upadhye et al.

Article | Published online: 7 May 2024



### Data Analytics for Process Engineers; Prediction, Control, and Optimization ›

1083 Views

Edwin Saputra et al.

Book Review | Published online: 1 May 2024



### Mesh-Clustered Gaussian Process Emulator for Partial Differential Equation Boundary Value Problems ›

962 Views

Chih-Li Sung et al.

Article | Published online: 28 Mar 2024



# Existing Methods

- Q: Would it always follow an **additive structure?**

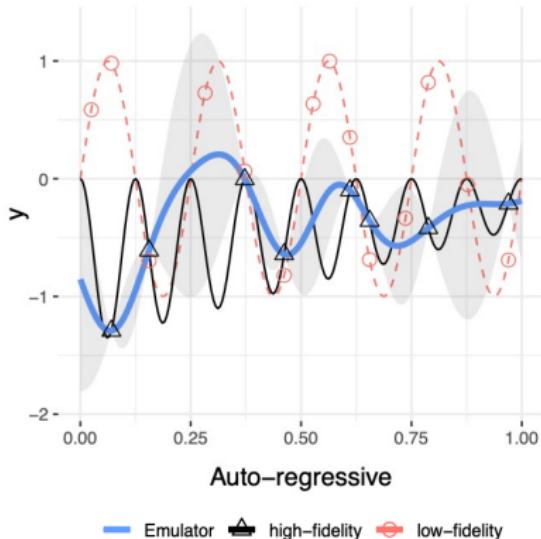


Figure: A synthetic example<sup>6</sup>, where  $n_1 = 13$ ,  $n_2 = 8$ ,  $f_1(x) = \sin(8\pi x)$ , and  $f_2(x) = (x - \sqrt{2})f_1^2(x)$ .

<sup>6</sup>Perdikari et al. (2017)

# RNA Emulator

- We propose a Recursive Non-Additive emulator ([RNA emulator](#)) to overcome this limitation in a recursive fashion:

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) = W_1(\mathbf{x}),$$

$$f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \textcolor{blue}{W}_l(\mathbf{x}, f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})), \quad l = 2, \dots, L,$$

- The auto-regressive model ( $f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \rho_{l-1} f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}) + Z_l(\mathbf{x})$ ) becomes a special case!

# RNA Emulator

- We propose a Recursive Non-Additive emulator ([RNA emulator](#)) to overcome this limitation in a recursive fashion:

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) = W_1(\mathbf{x}),$$

$$f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \textcolor{blue}{W}_l(\mathbf{x}, f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x})), \quad l = 2, \dots, L,$$

- The auto-regressive model ( $f_l(\mathbf{x}) = \rho_{l-1} f_{l-1}(\mathbf{x}) + Z_l(\mathbf{x})$ ) becomes a special case!
- Model the relationship  $\{W_l\}_{l=1}^L$  using independent GP priors

# RNA Emulator

## RNA Emulator

$$W_1(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(\alpha_1, \tau_1^2 \Phi_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')),$$

$$W_l(\mathbf{z}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(\alpha_l, \tau_l^2 K_l(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}')), \quad l = 2, \dots, L,$$

where  $\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{x}, y)$ , and  $\Phi_1(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}')$  and  $K_l(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}')$  are a positive definite kernel.

# RNA Emulator

## RNA Emulator

$$W_1(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(\alpha_1, \tau_1^2 \Phi_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')),$$

$$W_l(\mathbf{z}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(\alpha_l, \tau_l^2 K_l(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}')), \quad l = 2, \dots, L,$$

where  $\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{x}, y)$ , and  $\Phi_1(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}')$  and  $K_l(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}')$  are a positive definite kernel.

- e.g., squared exponential kernel:

$$\Phi_l(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \prod_{j=1}^d \exp\left(-\frac{(x_j - x'_j)^2}{\theta_{lj}}\right)$$

$$K_l(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}') = \exp\left(-\frac{(y - y')^2}{\theta_{ly}}\right) \prod_{j=1}^d \exp\left(-\frac{(x_j - x'_j)^2}{\theta_{lj}}\right)$$

# Closed Form Expression of RNA Emulator

## Proposition 1: The closed-form expressions

- Under the **squared exponential kernel**, the posterior mean and variance can be obtained as follows:

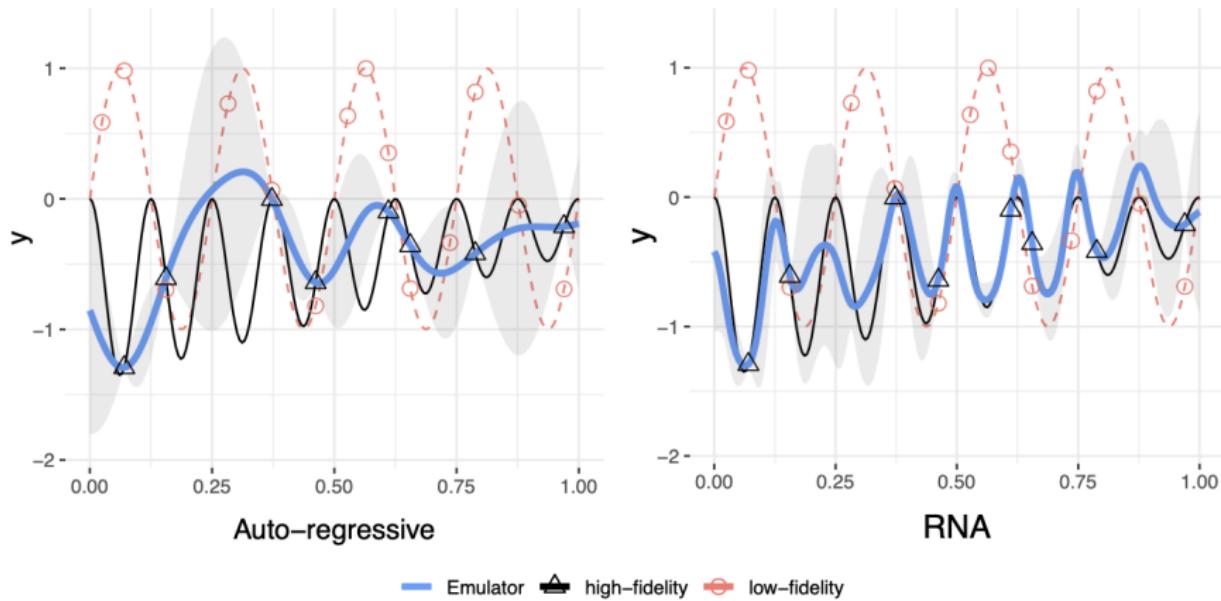
$$\mu_l^*(\mathbf{x}) := \mathbb{E}[f_l(\mathbf{x})|\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_l]$$

$$= \alpha_l + \sum_{i=1}^{n_l} r_i \prod_{j=1}^d \exp\left(-\frac{(x_j - x_{ij}^{[l]})^2}{\theta_{lj}}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 2\frac{\sigma_{l-1}^{*2}(\mathbf{x})}{\theta_{ly}}}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y_i^{[l-1]} - \mu_{l-1}^*(\mathbf{x}))^2}{\theta_{ly} + 2\sigma_{l-1}^{*2}(\mathbf{x})}\right),$$

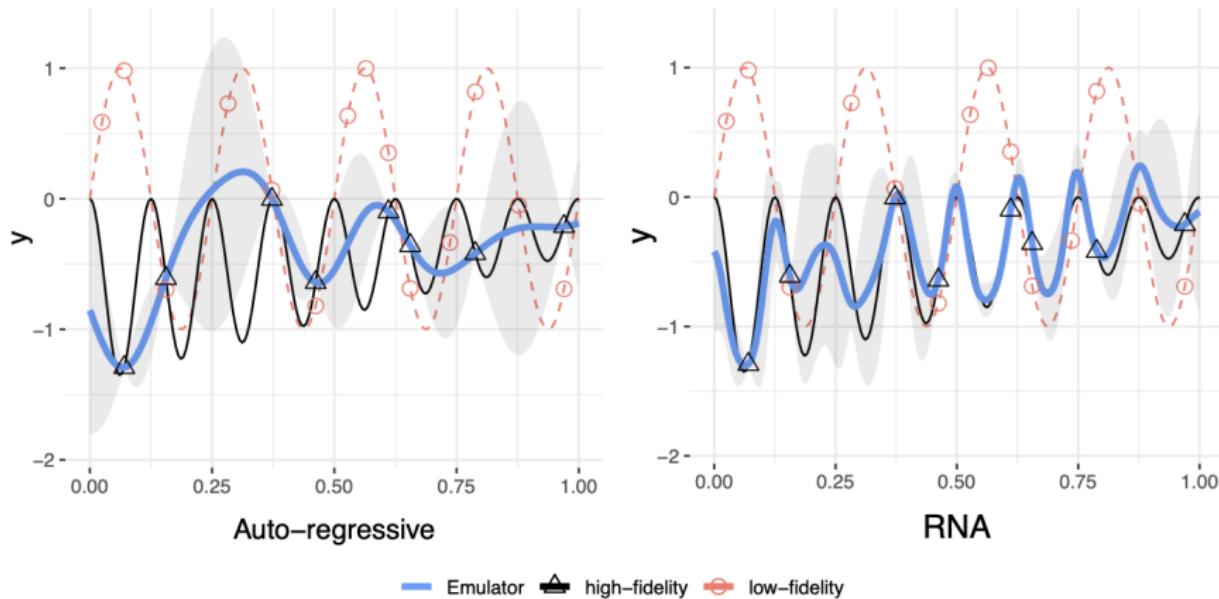
$$\sigma_l^{*2}(\mathbf{x}) := \mathbb{V}[f_l(\mathbf{x})|\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_l] = \tau_l^2 - (\mu_l^*(\mathbf{x}) - \alpha_l)^2 +$$

$$\left( \sum_{i,k=1}^{n_l} \zeta_{ik} (r_i r_k - \tau_l^2 (\mathbf{K}_l^{-1})_{ik}) \prod_{j=1}^d \exp\left(-\frac{(x_j - x_{ij}^{[l]})^2 + (x_j - x_{kj}^{[l]})^2}{\theta_{lj}}\right) \right).$$

# RNA Emulator



# After emulating...



However, the emulator still holds the uncertainty in some regions!

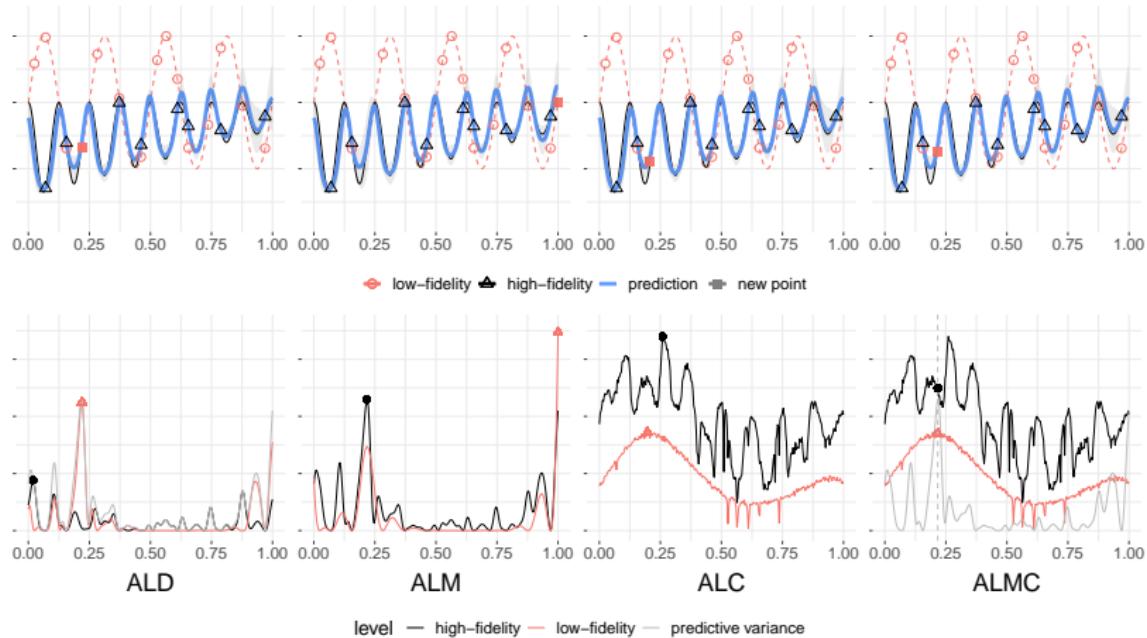
# Active Learning for RNA emulator

- In multi-fidelity simulation, active learning requires
  - identifying **optimal input locations**,
  - identifying **fidelity levels**,
  - accounting for the **respective simulation costs** simultaneously.

# Active Learning for RNA emulator

- In multi-fidelity simulation, active learning requires
  - identifying **optimal input locations**,
  - identifying **fidelity levels**,
  - accounting for the **respective simulation costs** simultaneously.
- Four active learning strategies for RNA emulator will be introduced:  
**ALD, ALM, ALC, and ALMC.**

# Active Learning for RNA Emulator



# Revisit Motivated Example (Blade Simulation)

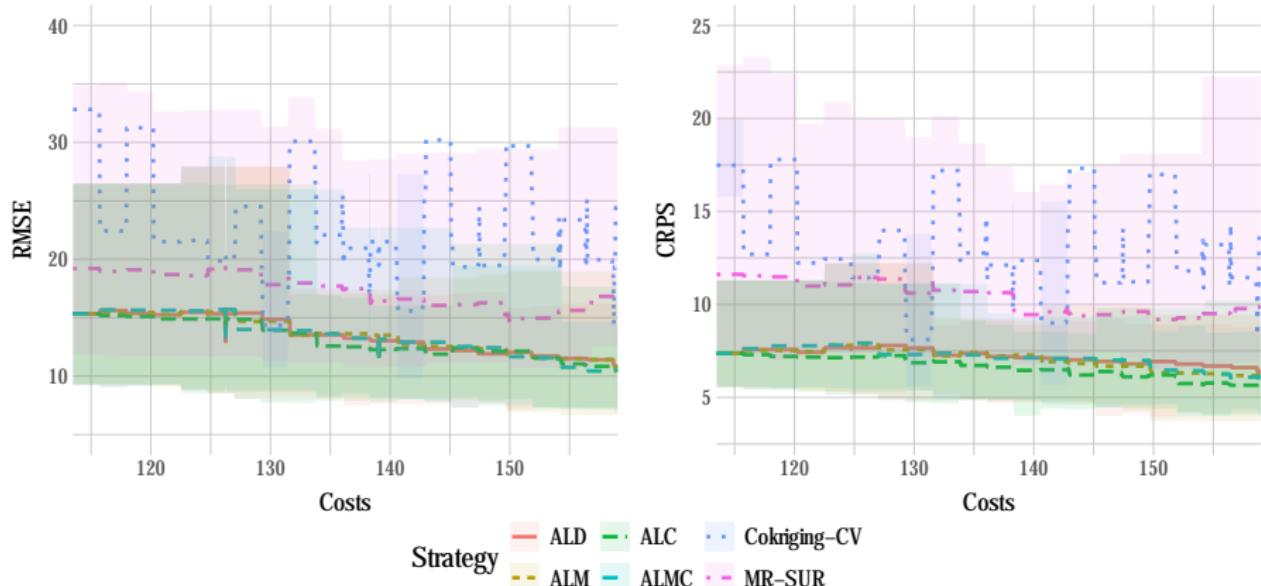


Figure: *RMSE and CRPS for the motivated example with respect to the cost.*

# Conclusion

- **Stacking Designs:**

- Emulates  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  with theoretical guarantees.
- Answers key questions, such as optimal sample size and the number of fidelity levels.
- Provides insights into the comparison between single-fidelity and multi-fidelity approaches.

# Conclusion

- **Stacking Designs:**

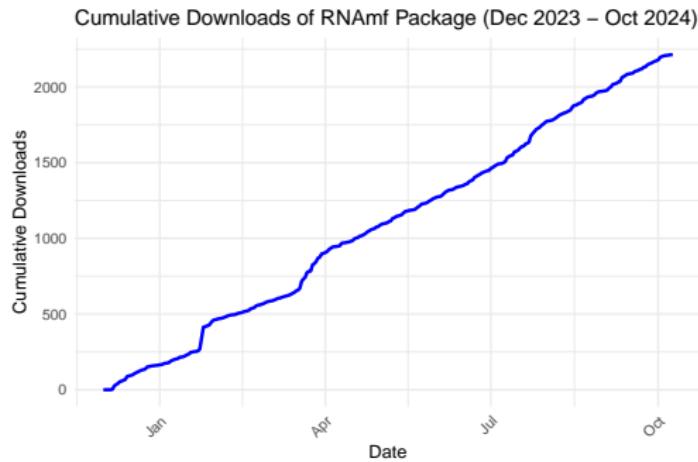
- Emulates  $f_\infty(\mathbf{x})$  with theoretical guarantees.
- Answers key questions, such as optimal sample size and the number of fidelity levels.
- Provides insights into the comparison between single-fidelity and multi-fidelity approaches.

- **Active Learning for RNA Emulator:**

- A more flexible model for emulating  $f_L(\mathbf{x})$ .
- Flexibility comes without additional computational cost due to closed-form posterior mean and variance expressions.
- Four active learning strategies are introduced to select fidelity level and sample location, enhancing emulation accuracy.

# Open-Source Contributions

- R package RNAmf (over 2,200 downloads) is available.



- Reproducibility code for both papers is available on GitHub.

# Acknowledgement

- National Science Foundation

- NSF DMS 2338018: 2024-2029 (PI, \$423,591)  
*CAREER: Single-Fidelity vs. Multi-Fidelity Computer Experiments:  
Unveiling the Effectiveness of Multi-Fidelity Emulation*
- NSF DMS 2113407: 2021-2024 (PI, \$142,009)  
*Collaborative Research: Efficient Bayesian Global Optimization with  
Applications to Deep Learning and Computer Experiments*



# Thank You!

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY