

Gaussian Processes for Optimal Sensor Position  
Master Project  
Background and Progress Report

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# 1 Project Description

## 1.1 Summary

Gaussian processes (GP) have been widely used since the 1970's in the fields of geostatistics and meteorology. Current applications are in diverse fields including sensor placement. In this project, we propose the employment of a GP model to calculate the optimal spatial positioning of sensors to study and collect air pollution data in big cities. We will then validate the results by means of a data assimilation software with the data at the proposed positions.

## 1.2 Data

London South Bank University (LSBU) air pollution data (velocity, tracer)

# 2 Literature Review

## 2.1 The MAGIC Project

This work is done in the context of the Managing Air for Green Inner Cities (MAGIC) project.

What is the MAGIC Project about.

The objective of the Managing Air for Green Inner Cities (MAGIC) project is to break this vicious cycle by developing an advanced computational system that can be used to predict the airflow and air quality in a city in order to optimize the use of natural ventilation in buildings, thereby reducing energy demand and GHG emission.

a fully resolved air-quality model that simulates the air flow and pollutant and temperature distributions in complex city geometries, fully coupled to observations, naturally ventilated buildings, and green and blue spaces; . fast-running models that allow rapid calculations for real-time analysis and emergency response; and . a cost-benefit model to assess the economic, social and environmental viability of planning options and decisions. ?

What is the focus of my project inside its perimeter.

A further use of these methods is to optimize the placement and type of sensors in the local environment.

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## 2.2 Modelling Spatial Data with Gaussian Process

We are interested in the optimisation of the sensor positions in the context of DA. We are going to explore the solutions proposed by several research papers.

It's an old problem ... (find some old reference).

### **2.2.1 Sensor Position Optimisation**

### **2.2.2 Estimating the Covariance Function**

In the paper of (?) an important part is dedicated to the computation of the covariance matrix between the samples. This is due to the fact experimental setup that is presented has a very sparse network of sensors, and the covariance matrix needs to be defined for points where there are no measurements. In our case, the density of measurement at our disposition enables us to have consider only the empirical covariance in the gaussian process. The empirical covariance is then very simply computed over a part of the time series available. The formulation of the empirical mean an the time series is found in ... . The problem that is then encountered is the scalability of the computation of a covariance matrix for.

## **2.3 Optimising the Sensors Locations**

## **2.4 Data Assimilation**

### **2.4.1 Definitions**

### **2.4.2 DA in the MAGIC Project**

## 3 Progress Report

### 3.1 Learning the GP

#### 3.1.1 Data Points

In our case we have data available from the simulation and from the

#### 3.1.2 Covariance Matrix

### 3.2 Optimisation of Sensors Locations

### 3.3 Validation

- Estimate the performance at the current Locations
- Propose new placements

## References