

# Sparse Inverse Problems with Gamma Hyperpriors

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# Problem Setup

Given data  $y$  of the form

$$y = \mathcal{G}(u) + \eta, \quad \eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Gamma),$$

where  $\mathcal{G} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are known,

- Point estimation of  $u$  under sparsity assumption?
- Uncertainty quantification of  $u$ ?

- 1 Hierarchical Bayesian Model
- 2 Iterative Alternating Scheme (IAS)
- 3 Variational Iterative Alternating Scheme (VIAS)
- 4  $\ell_1$ -regularized Iterative Ensemble Kalman Filter ( $\ell_1$ -IEKF)
- 5 Numerical Examples

# Hierarchical Bayesian Model

- Data generating model (Likelihood)  $\implies y|u \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{G}(u), \Gamma)$
- Bayesian framework  $\implies u|\theta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, D_\theta), D_\theta = \text{diag}(\theta)$
- Hierarchical setup  $\implies \theta_i \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta), 1 \leq i \leq d$
- Ultimate objective: Posterior distribution  $p(u, \theta|y)$

# Posterior Distribution

$$p(u, \theta | y) = \frac{p(y|u, \theta)p(u|\theta)p(\theta)}{p(y)} \propto \exp(-J(u, \theta)),$$

where

$$J(u, \theta) := \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\|y - \mathcal{G}(u)\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\|u\|_{D_{\theta}}^2}_{(a)} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^d \left[ \frac{\theta_i}{\alpha_i} - \left( \beta - \frac{3}{2} \right) \log \frac{\theta_i}{\alpha_i} \right]}_{(b)}.$$

# Iterative Alternating Scheme (IAS)

When  $\mathcal{G}(u)$  is linear, i.e.,  $\mathcal{G}(u) = Au$  for some matrix  $A$ ,

- 1 **Initialize**  $\theta^0$ ,  $k = 0$ .
- 2 **Iterate until convergence:**
  - (i) Main parameter update:

$$\begin{aligned}u^{k+1} &= \arg \min_u J(u, \theta^k) \\&= \arg \min_u \frac{1}{2} \|y - Au\|_\Gamma^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{D_\theta^k}^2 \\&= (A^\top \Gamma^{-1} A + D_{\theta^k}^{-1})^{-1} A^\top \Gamma^{-1} y.\end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Variance parameter(regularization) update:

$$\begin{aligned}\theta^{k+1} &= \arg \min_\theta J(u^{k+1}, \theta) \\&= \alpha \left( \frac{\tilde{\beta}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{\beta}^2}{4} + \frac{(u_i^{k+1})^2}{2\alpha_i}} \right), \quad \tilde{\beta} = \beta - 3/2.\end{aligned}$$

More details in [Calvetti et al., 2019].

# Mean-Field Variation Inference

- Can we approximate  $p(u, \theta|y)$  with other probability distributions?  
 $\implies$  Mean-Field Variation Inference [Blei et al., 2017]
- Mean-Field Family:

$$\mathcal{D} := \left\{ q(z) : q(u, \theta) = q(u)q(\theta), \quad q(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^d q(\theta_i) \right\}.$$

- Find a distribution  $q^* \in \mathcal{D}$  closest to  $p(u, \theta|y)$ .  
 $\implies$  Kullback-Leibler Divergence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KL}(q(\cdot) || p(\cdot|y)) &:= \int q(z) \log \frac{q(z)}{p(z|y)} dz \\ &= \log p(y) - \underbrace{\int q(z) \log \frac{p(z, y)}{q(z)} dz}_{=: \text{ELBO}(q)} \end{aligned}$$

# Variational Iterative Alternating Scheme (VIAS)

1 **Initialize**  $q^0(u)$ ,  $k = 0$ .

2 **Iterate:**

i) Update

$$q^{k+1}(\theta) = \arg \max_{q(\theta)} \text{ELBO}(q^k(u)q(\theta))$$

ii) Update

$$q^{k+1}(u) = \arg \max_{q(u)} \text{ELBO}(q(u)q^{k+1}(\theta))$$

iii)  $k \rightarrow k + 1$



## VIAS: $q(\theta)$ update

With  $q^{k+1}(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^d q^{k+1}(\theta_i)$ , one can derive

$$q^{k+1}(\theta_i) = \text{GIG}(b, r_i^k, s),$$
$$b = 2\beta, \quad s = \alpha - 0.5, \quad r_i^k = (m_i^k)^2 + C_{ii}^k,$$

where

$$m_i^k = \mathbb{E}_{q^k(u)}[u_i], \quad C_{ii}^k = \text{Var}_{q^k(u)}[u_i].$$

## VIAS: $q(u)$ update

One can obtain

$$q^{k+1}(u) = \mathcal{N}(m^{k+1}, C^{k+1})$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} m^{k+1} &= (A^\top \Gamma^{-1} A + L)^{-1} A^\top \Gamma^{-1} y, \\ C^{k+1} &= (A^\top \Gamma^{-1} A + L)^{-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $L = \text{diag}\left(\mathbb{E}_{q^{k+1}(\theta)}\left[\frac{1}{\theta}\right]\right)$  whose  $i$ th diagonal component is given by

$$L_{ii} = \frac{K_{s-1} \left( \sqrt{r_i^{k+1} b} \right)}{K_s \left( \sqrt{r_i^{k+1} b} \right)} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{b}{r_i^{k+1}}}$$

# VIAS: Convergence and Initialization

- $\text{ELBO}(q) = \text{ELBO}(m, C, r)$ .
- $\text{ELBO}(m, C, r)$  is not convex.
- In general, VIAS can only guarantee convergence to a local maximum.
- Due to multiple local maxima, choosing  $C^0$  with small condition number is recommended.
- Hyperparameters  $\alpha, \beta$  can be chosen to maximize ELBO  
: Only need ballpark values.
- More details in [Agrawal et al., 2022].

# Iterative Ensemble Kalman Filter (IEKF)

- IEKF is a sequential nonlinear optimization method.
- Introduce an initial ensemble (a set of particles).
- Particles are roughly updated according to a trajectory of Gauss-Newton iterates.
- After sufficient number of iterations, particles will be centered around the optimum.
- The sample mean of these particles will be our solution.

- In the main parameter update step:

$$\arg \min_u \frac{1}{2} \|y - \mathcal{G}(u)\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{D_{\theta}^k}^2,$$

employ IEKF, an ensemble-based nonlinear optimization method.

- Combined with the variance parameter update, one can promote sparse structure in the solution:  $\ell_1$ -regularized version of IEKF.
- Stronger  $\ell_{p<1}$ -regularization is possible with a generalized gamma hyperprior.
- Utilize particles to build approximate credible intervals.
- More details in [Kim et al., 2022].

# Learning parameters for Lorenz 63 model I

Consider the Lorenz-63 system:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sigma(y - x),$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x(\rho - z) - y,$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = xy - \zeta z,$$

with the classical parameter values  $\sigma = 10, \rho = 28, \zeta = 8/3$ .

## Learning parameters for Lorenz 63 model II

$$A = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c} | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | \\ \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{y} & \mathbf{z} & \mathbf{x}^2 & \mathbf{y}^2 & \mathbf{z}^2 & \mathbf{xy} & \mathbf{xz} & \mathbf{yz} & \dots & \mathbf{x}^5 & \dots \\ | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | & | \end{array} \right] \in \mathbb{R}^{2000 \times 55}.$$

# Learning parameters for Lorenz 63 model III

Obtain synthetic data  $\dot{\mathbf{x}}, \dot{\mathbf{y}}, \dot{\mathbf{z}}$  from

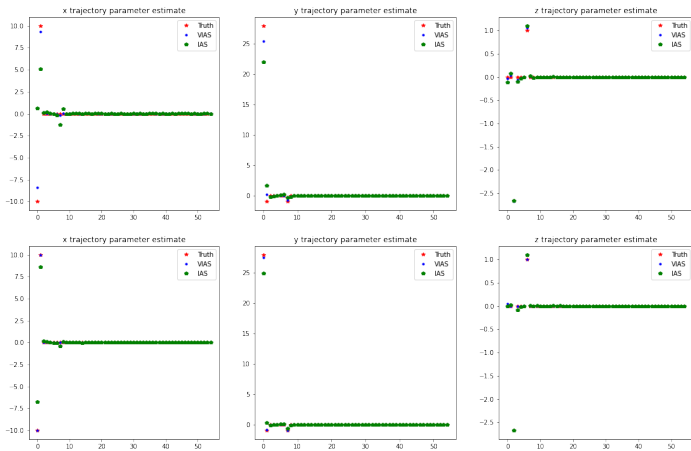
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{x}} &= A\Phi_1 + \eta_1, & \Phi_1 &= [-10, 10, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \dots, 0]^\top, \\ \dot{\mathbf{y}} &= A\Phi_2 + \eta_2, & \Phi_2 &= [28, -1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, \dots, 0]^\top, \\ \dot{\mathbf{z}} &= A\Phi_3 + \eta_3, & \Phi_3 &= [0, 0, -8/3, 0, 0, 0, 1, \dots, 0]^\top,\end{aligned}$$

where  $\eta_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.3I_{2000})$  are independent.

- Goal: recover  $\Phi_1, \Phi_2, \Phi_3$  based on  $A, \dot{\mathbf{x}}, \dot{\mathbf{y}}, \dot{\mathbf{z}}$ .
- More detailed explanation on simulation setup: [Brunton et al., 2016]

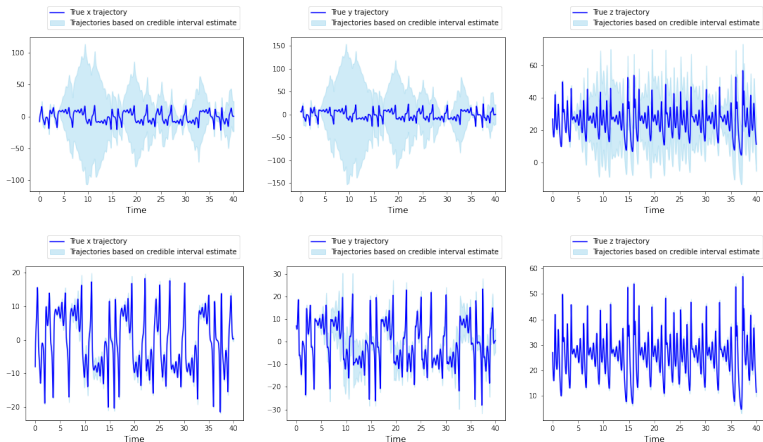


# Parameter Estimation: VIAS



**Figure:** Recovery of dictionary coefficients for x-trajectory (first column), y-trajectory (second column), and z-trajectory (third column) using IAS and VIAS. Top: two iterations. Bottom: five iterations.

# Uncertainty Quantification of Trajectory: VIAS



**Figure:** True Lorenz-63 trajectory and VIAS estimation. Top: two VIAS iterations. Bottom: five VIAS iterations. Blue line is the true dynamics. Shaded regions are constructed from 2.5 and 97.5 credible levels of coefficients.

## Nonlinear Example: First order PDE inversion I

Consider the following partial differential equation

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{x_1} v - \partial_{x_2} v - u(x_1)v &= 0, & (x_1, x_2) &\in (0, 1) \times (0, 1), \\ v(x_1, 0) &= \phi(x_1), & x_1 &\in [0, 1].\end{aligned}$$

If  $u$  is continuous and  $\phi$  is continuously differentiable, then it admits the solution

$$v(x_1, x_2) = \phi(x_1 + x_2) \exp\left(\int_{x_1+x_2}^{x_1} u(z) dz\right).$$

With  $\phi(x) = \cos(x)$ , the data  $y$  is obtained according to

$$y(x_1, x_2) = v(x_1, x_2) + \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, 0.1^2).$$

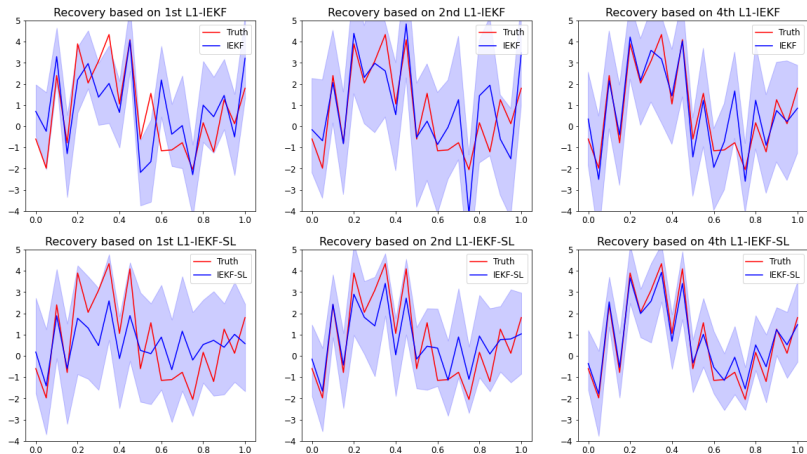
## Nonlinear Example: first order PDE inversion II

Our goal is to recover the function  $u$  given the data  $y$ . We further assume that  $u$  admits a representation

$$u(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{30} u_j \sin(j\pi x) + \sum_{j=1}^{30} \tilde{u}_j \cos(j\pi x), \quad x \in [0, 1],$$

with only three components of  $\{u_j\}_{j=1}^{30}$  and  $\{\tilde{u}_j\}_{j=1}^{30}$  are nonzero.

# Nonlinear Example: first order PDE inversion III



**Figure:** Red: target function to recover. Blue:  $\ell_1$ -IEKF/IEKF-SL recovery. Left column: vanilla IEKF/IEKF-SL. Middle column:  $\ell_1$ -IEKF/IEKF-SL after one outer iteration. Right column:  $\ell_1$ -IEKF/IEKF-SL after three outer iterations. Shaded: 2.5/97.5 percentile of the recovery.

# Summary

- Hierarchical Bayesian model with gamma hyperprior to induce sparse structure in parameter of interest.
- Under the linear model setting, we employed a variational inference technique to approximate posterior distribution of the target parameter.
- An coordinate ascent variational inference led to simple parameter update rules.
- Under the nonlinear model setting, we used iterative ensemble Kalman filter to solve for main parameter and build approximate credible intervals using particles.
- Reproducible codes available at: <https://github.com/hwkim12>

# References



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