# Gaussian Process Semi-Parametric Regression w/ Misspecified Models

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## Motivating Example – The Simple Machine<sup>[1]</sup>

#### **Ground Truth Model**

$$\zeta(x) = \frac{\theta x}{1 + x/a}$$

#### Data

$$y = \zeta(x) + \epsilon, \qquad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2)$$

#### **Misspecified Model**

$$\eta(x,\theta) = \theta x$$

 $\zeta$ : work

x: effort

 $\theta$ : efficiency

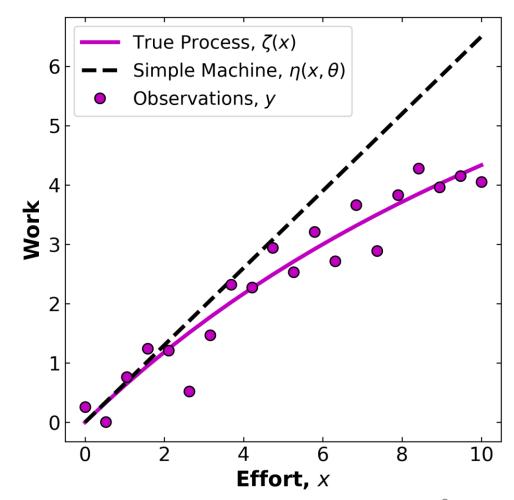
a: friction factor

*y*: observations

 $\epsilon$ : measurement error

 $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2$ : variance of error

#### How to learn model-form uncertainty?



[2] Brynjarsdóttir, J. & O'Hagan, A. (2014). *Inverse Probl.* 30(11): 114007.

#### Kennedy & O'Hagan (KOH) model<sup>[2]</sup>:

$$y = \zeta(x) + \epsilon = \eta(x, \theta) + \delta(x) + \epsilon$$

$$\delta(x) \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, \sigma_{\delta}^2 K(x, x'; \psi))$$
: model discrepancy

 $\sigma_{\delta}^2$ : process variance

 $K(\cdot,\cdot)$ : correlation function

 $\psi$ : length scale parameters

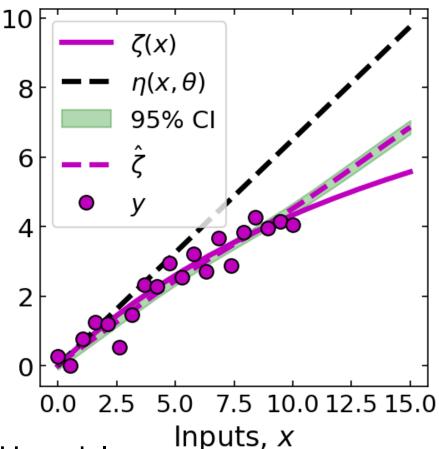
**Objective:** Find  $(\theta, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2, \sigma_{\delta}^2, \psi)$  that best reproduce y.

# Gaussian Process Semi-Parametric Regression w/ Correlated Errors [3]

Parameter estimation as nested optimization:

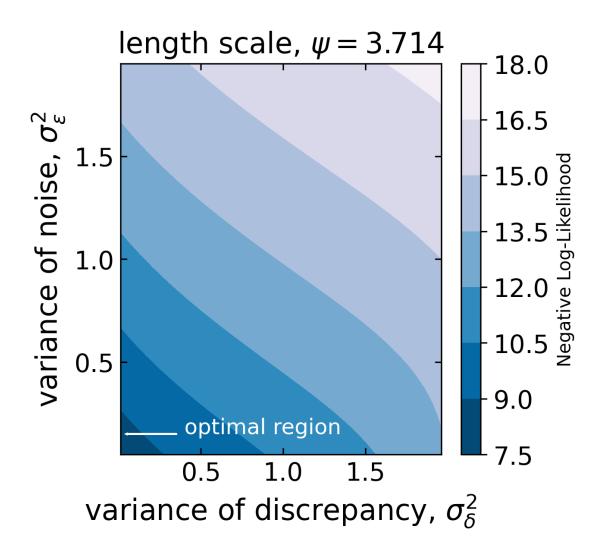
**Problem size:** 3 decision variables, 3 supporting equations, 44 data variables, 0 constraints

### Results



KOH model:

- (+) outperforms misspecified model
- (-) is model better at interpolation than prediction



- (-) nuisance parameters not identifiable  $\Rightarrow \theta$  not identifiable
- (-) different approach needed for parameter estimation

# Thank you for your attention! References:

[1] Kennedy, Marc C. & O'Hagan, Anthony. (2001). Bayesian calibration of computer models. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B: Statistical Methodology* 63(3):425–464.

[2] Brynjarsdóttir, Jenný & O'Hagan, Anthony. (2014). Learning about model parameters: the importance of model discrepancy. *Inverse Problems* 30(11): 114007.

[3] He, Heping & Severini, Thomas A. (2016). A flexible approach to inference in semi-parametric regression models with correlated errors using Gaussian processes. *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis* 103(3):316–329.