

An Overview of Multilevel Monte Carlo Techniques for Solving PDEs with Random Coefficients

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Multilevel and Multigrid Workshop, TU Delft

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Contents

PART 1: Classic MLMC

Using coarser grids for variance reduction

PART 2: Extensions of MLMC

Towards Multigrid Multilevel Quasi-Monte Carlo

PART 3: Application

Wire drawing and Bekaert

PART 1

Classic MLMC

The KU Leuven UQ team

- **NUMA**: numerical analysis and applied mathematics
- 11 professors, about 40 postdocs and PhD students
- Working on UQ:



S. Vandewalle
Professor



P. Robbe
PhD student



A. Van Barel
PhD student



P. Blondeel
PhD student

+ collaborations with prof. D. Nuyens and prof. G. Samaey

Model parametric elliptic PDE

$$-\nabla \cdot a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \nabla u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = f(\mathbf{x})$$

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$$-\nabla \cdot a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \nabla u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = f(\mathbf{x})$$

- early work
 - [Ghanem, Spanos, 1997]
 - [Babuska, Tempone, Zouraris, 2004]
 - [Babuska, Nobile, Tempone, 2007]
 - and many others
- parametric PDE setting in
 - [Cohen, DeVore, Schwab, 2011]
- recent interest from multilevel/QMC community
 - [Graham, Kuo, Nuyens, Scheichl, Sloan, 2011]
 - [Cliffe, Giles, Scheichl, Teckentrup, 2011]
 - [Kuo, Schwab, Sloan, 2012]
 - [Kuo, Nuyens, 2016]
 - and many others

Example

- $a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ is derived from a **Gaussian random field** $z(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ with given mean $z_0(\mathbf{x})$ and covariance function, e.g.,

$$C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \left(\sqrt{2\nu} r \right)^\nu K_\nu \left(\sqrt{2\nu} r \right), \quad r = \frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_2}{\lambda_c}$$

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- Samples can be generated using a **KL expansion**

$$z(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{j \geq 1} y_j \sqrt{\theta_j} \psi_j(\mathbf{x})$$

where the eigenvalues θ_j and eigenfunctions $\psi_j(\mathbf{x})$ satisfy

$$\int_D C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \psi_j(\mathbf{x}') d\mathbf{x}' = \theta_j \psi_j(\mathbf{x})$$

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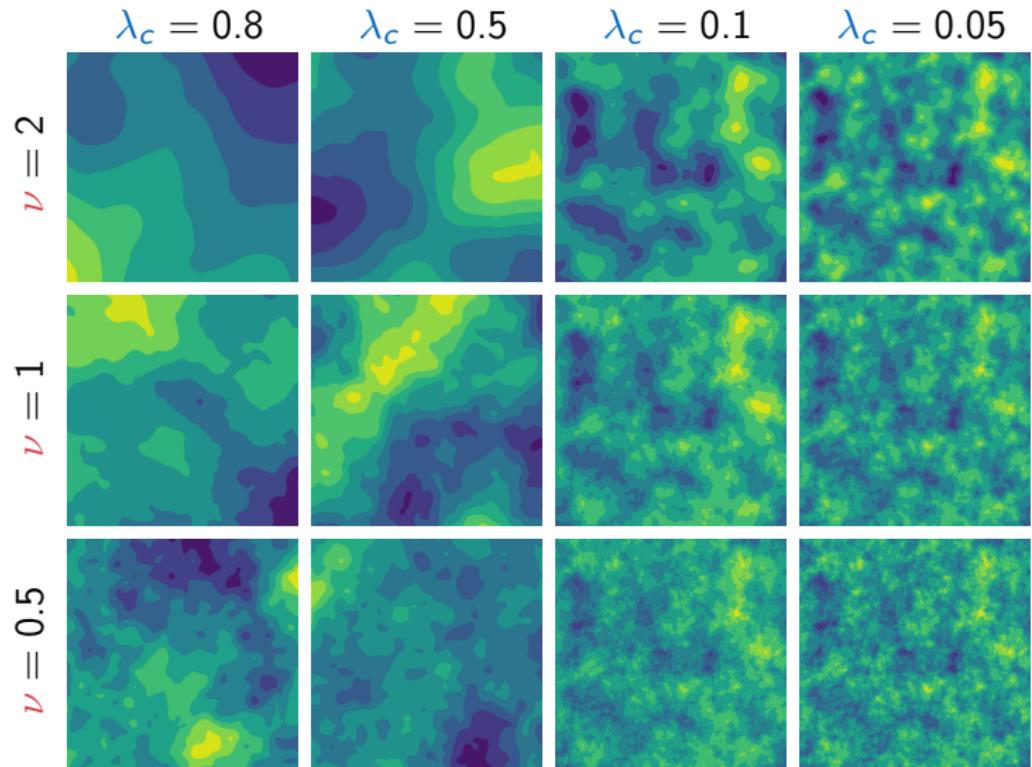
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- $a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \exp(z(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}))$ is known as the "*lognormal case*"

Example Gaussian random fields



see [GaussianRandomFields.jl](#)

Sampling based methods

- Goal: compute statistics of **quantity of interest**

$$Q = F(u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}))$$

quantity of interest is uncertain, denote $F(\mathbf{y}) := F(u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}))$

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- 1: Draw a sufficiently large sample set $\mathbf{y}^{(1)}, \mathbf{y}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{y}^{(N)}$
 - 2: **for** $n = 1$ to N **do**
 - 3: Compute the random field $a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^{(n)})$
 - 4: Solve a **deterministic** PDE using method of choice
 - 5: Compute the quantity of interest $F(\mathbf{y}^{(n)})$
 - 6: **end for**
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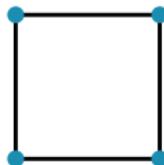
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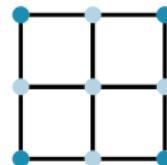
- Example: the Monte Carlo (MC) estimator for $E[Q]$ is

$$Q^{\text{MC}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N F(\mathbf{y}^{(n)})$$

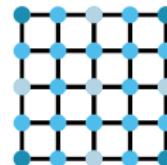
A hierarchy of coarser grids



$\ell = 0$



$\ell = 1$



$\ell = 2$

- Solution of the PDE (and hence quantity of interest F) is approximated numerically
- Suppose we have a **hierarchy of approximations** F_ℓ , $\ell = 0, \dots, L$ and $F_\ell \rightarrow F$ as $\ell \rightarrow \infty$
- Do not compute $E[F_L]$ by sampling from F_L , but by sampling from the whole hierarchy F_ℓ , $\ell = 0, \dots, L$

Multilevel Monte Carlo (MLMC)

- Basis is the **telescoping sum**

$$\mathbb{E}[F_L] = \mathbb{E}[F_0] + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{E}[F_\ell - F_{\ell-1}]$$

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- MLMC estimator uses Monte Carlo to estimate each term:

$$\mathcal{Q}_L^{\text{MC}} = \sum_{\ell=0}^L \frac{1}{N_\ell} \sum_{n=1}^{N_\ell} \left(F_\ell(\mathbf{y}_\ell^{(n)}) - F_{\ell-1}(\mathbf{y}_\ell^{(n)}) \right) \quad (F_{-1} := 0)$$

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- Crucially, use the **same random numbers** $\mathbf{y}_\ell^{(n)}$ in each sample

$$\begin{aligned} V_\ell &:= V[F_\ell - F_{\ell-1}] = V[F_\ell] + V[F_{\ell-1}] - 2\text{cov}(F_\ell, F_{\ell-1}) \\ &\ll V[F_\ell] + V[F_{\ell-1}] \end{aligned}$$

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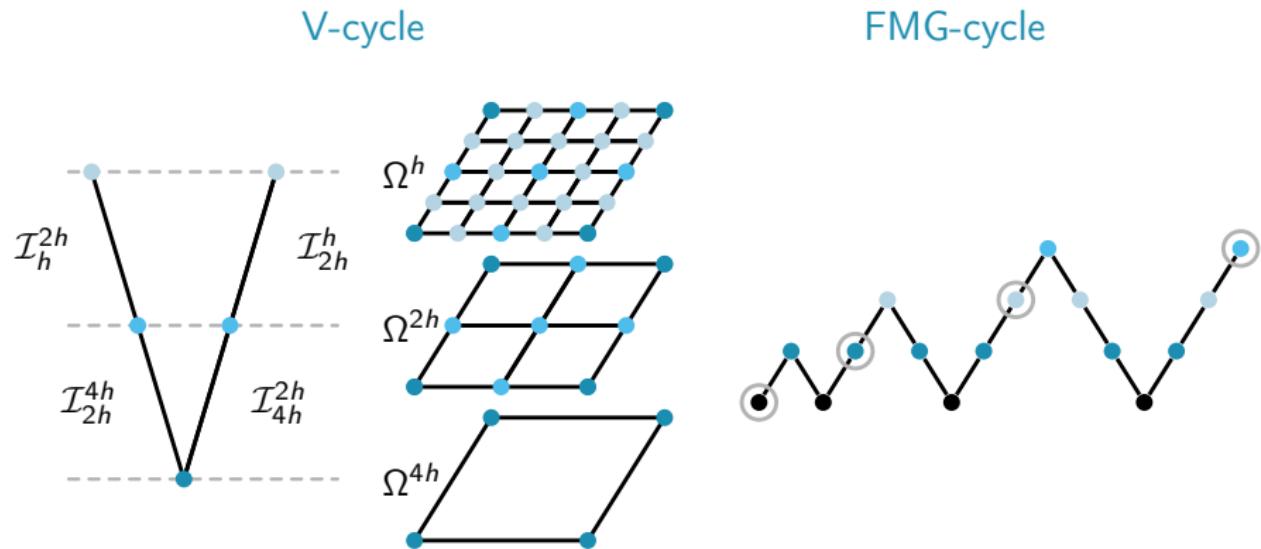
- Most samples will be taken on the coarse grid, where samples are cheap, and only few samples are needed on the finest grid

PART 2

Extensions of MLMC

Full Multigrid (FMG)

- Full Multigrid can compute a solution to discretization accuracy in $\mathcal{O}(M)$ time, where M is the number of DOF
- FMG also computes free solutions on coarser grids



Multigrid Multilevel Monte Carlo (MG-MLMC)

- Idea is to **recycle** the coarse solutions from the FMG method as coarse samples in the MLMC method
- MG-MLMC estimator [Kumar, Oosterlee, Dwight, 2017]

$$\mathcal{Q}_{L,\text{reuse}}^{\text{MC}} := \sum_{\ell=0}^L \left(\frac{1}{\sum_{i=\ell}^L N_i} \right) \sum_{k=\ell}^L \sum_{n=1}^{N_k} \left(F_\ell(\mathbf{y}_k^{(n)}) - F_{\ell-1}(\mathbf{y}_k^{(n)}) \right)$$

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- This is a sum of $L + 1$ estimators \mathcal{Y}_ℓ , i.e.,

$$\mathcal{Q}_{L,\text{reuse}}^{\text{MC}} := \sum_{\ell=0}^L \mathcal{Y}_\ell,$$

that are **not independent**

- Accuracy of estimator is controlled using mean-square-error

$$\text{MSE}\left(\mathcal{Q}_{L,\text{reuse}}^{\text{MC}}\right) = \text{V}\left[\mathcal{Q}_{L,\text{reuse}}^{\text{MC}}\right] + \text{Bias}\left(\mathcal{Q}_{L,\text{reuse}}^{\text{MC}}\right)^2$$

Obtaining a variance estimate

- Variance of the MG-MLMC estimator is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{V}[\mathcal{Q}_{L,\text{reuse}}^{\text{MC}}] &= \sum_{\ell=0}^L \text{V}[\mathcal{Y}_\ell] + 2 \sum_{0 \leq \ell < \tau \leq L} \text{cov}(\mathcal{Y}_\ell, \mathcal{Y}_\tau) \\ &= \sum_{\ell=0}^L \left(\frac{V_\ell}{\sum_{i=\ell}^L N_i} \right) + 2 \sum_{0 \leq \ell < \tau \leq L} \rho_{\ell\tau} \sqrt{\left(\frac{V_\ell}{\sum_{i=\ell}^L N_i} \right) \left(\frac{V_\tau}{\sum_{i=\tau}^L N_i} \right)} \end{aligned}$$

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- 3 approaches to obtain variance estimates:
 1. Bound the covariances using **Cauchy-Schwarz**:
analytic solution for the optimal number of samples required on each level, but the error bound is too conservative
 2. Use the **de-biasing technique** from [Rhee, Glynn, 2015]:
randomization of the final level L
 3. Randomly shifted lattice rules from **Quasi-Monte Carlo**

Quasi-Monte Carlo (QMC)

- A **Quasi-Monte Carlo** method uses well-chosen sample points, as opposed to the random points with Monte Carlo
- A popular choice are **rank-1 lattice rules**

$$\mathbf{t}^{(n)} := \frac{n\mathbf{z} \bmod N}{N} = \left\{ \frac{n\mathbf{z}}{N} \right\}$$

where $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{Z}_N^s$ is a generating vector and $\{\cdot\}$ denotes mod 1

¹more details to be found in standard works such as [Dick, Kuo, Sloan, 2013]

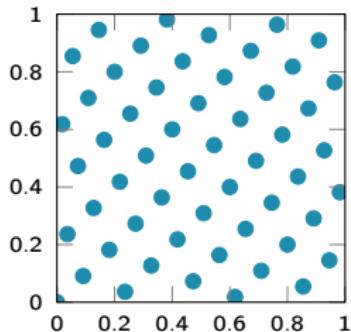
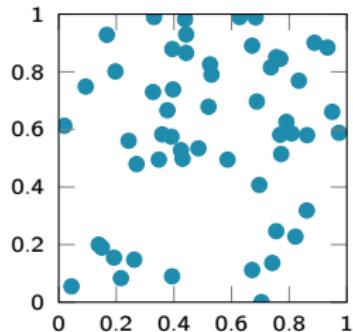
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- Can potentially obtain $\mathcal{O}(1/N)$ convergence, if integrand is *sufficiently smooth and decaying importance of dimensions*¹



¹more details to be found in standard works such as [\[Dick, Kuo, Sloan, 2013\]](#)

Random shifting

- Lattice points are chosen deterministically, hence, they are **correlated**
- Solution is **random shifting**:

$$\bar{\mathcal{Q}}_{L,P,\text{reuse}}^{\text{QMC}} := \frac{1}{P} \sum_{p=1}^P \sum_{\ell=0}^L \left(\frac{1}{\sum_{i=\ell}^L N_i} \right) \sum_{k=\ell}^L \sum_{n=1}^{N_k} \left(F_\ell(\mathbf{y}_{k,p}^{(n)}) - F_{\ell-1}(\mathbf{y}_{k,p}^{(n)}) \right)$$

where $\mathbf{y}_{k,p}^{(n)} := \Phi^{-1} \left(\left\{ \mathbf{t}_\ell^{(k)} + \mathbf{u}_k^{(p)} \right\} \right)$ and $\mathbf{u}_k^{(p)} \sim \mathbf{U}(0, 1)$

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- Sample variance is used as an estimate for the variance

$$V[\bar{\mathcal{Q}}_{L,P,\text{reuse}}^{\text{QMC}}] \approx \frac{1}{P(P-1)} \sum_{p=1}^P \left(\mathcal{Q}_{L,p,\text{reuse}}^{\text{QMC}} - \bar{\mathcal{Q}}_{L,P,\text{reuse}}^{\text{QMC}} \right)^2$$

Cost analysis

- Under the assumptions that

$$(1) \quad |\mathbb{E}[Q_L - Q]| \leq c_\alpha h_L^\alpha,$$

$$(2) \quad V_\ell \leq c_\beta h_{\ell-1}^\beta,$$

$$(3) \quad C_\ell \leq c_\gamma h_\ell^{-\gamma}, \text{ and}$$

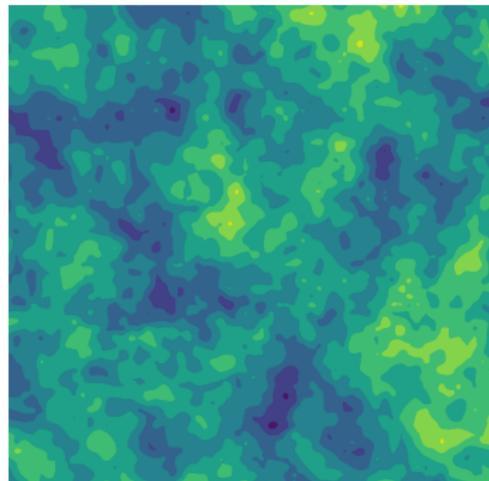
$$(4) \quad V[\bar{\mathcal{Y}}_\ell] \leq c_\lambda N_\ell^{-1/\lambda} V_\ell.$$

we can show that

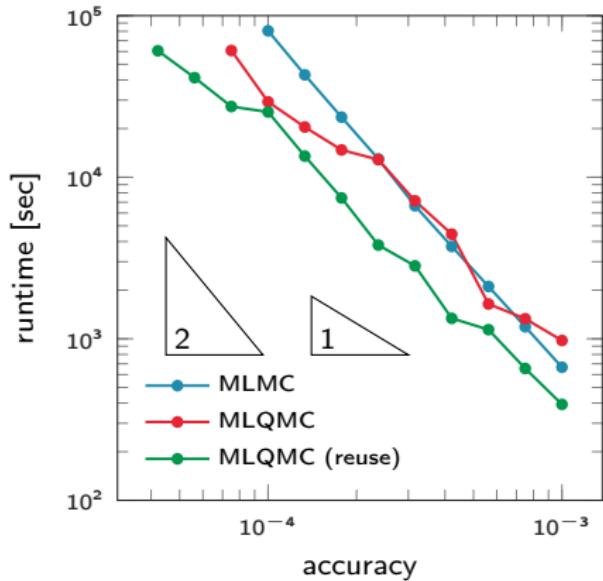
$$\text{cost}(\bar{Q}_{L,P,\text{reuse}}^{\text{QMC}}) = \left(1 - \left(s^{-(\beta+\gamma)}\right)^{\frac{\lambda}{\lambda+1}}\right) \text{cost}(\bar{Q}_{L,P}^{\text{QMC}})$$

- This means that the sample reuse is more efficient when
 - The variance of the difference decays slowly (small β)
 - The lattice rule has good performance (small λ)

Numerical results

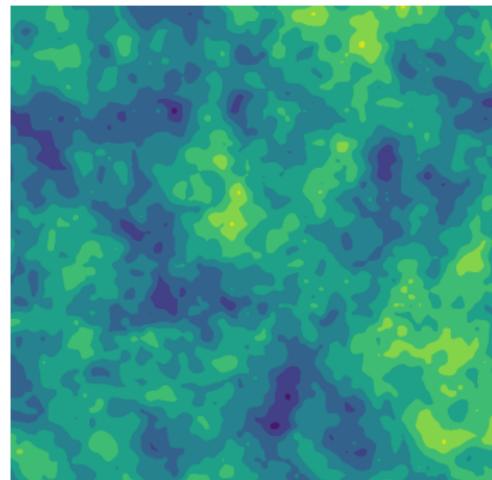


$\lambda = 0.1, \nu = 0.5$
3500 KL terms

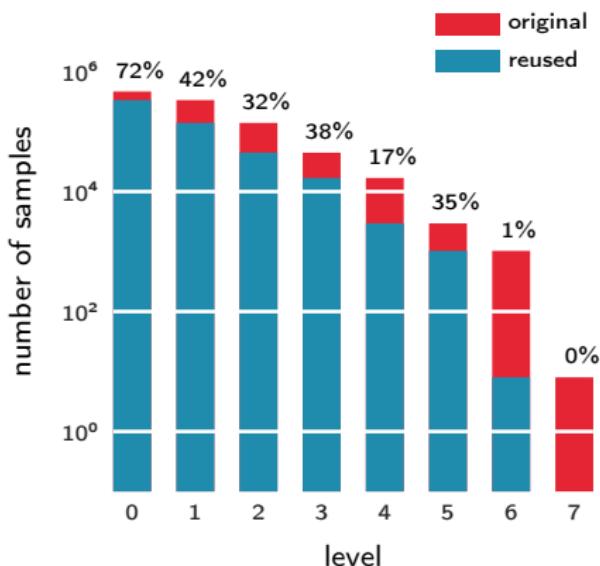


speedup vs MLMC:
 ~ 1.34 with MLQMC
 ~ 2.59 with MLQMC (reuse)

Numerical results

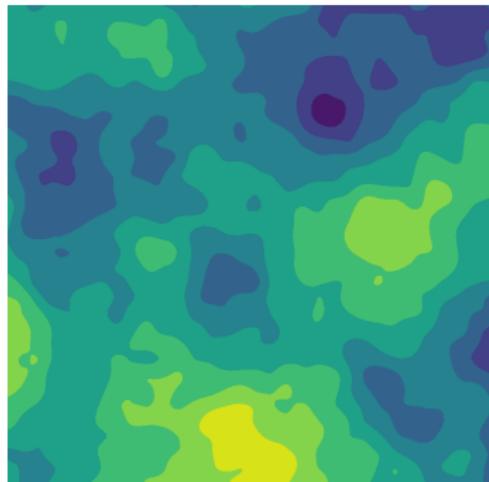


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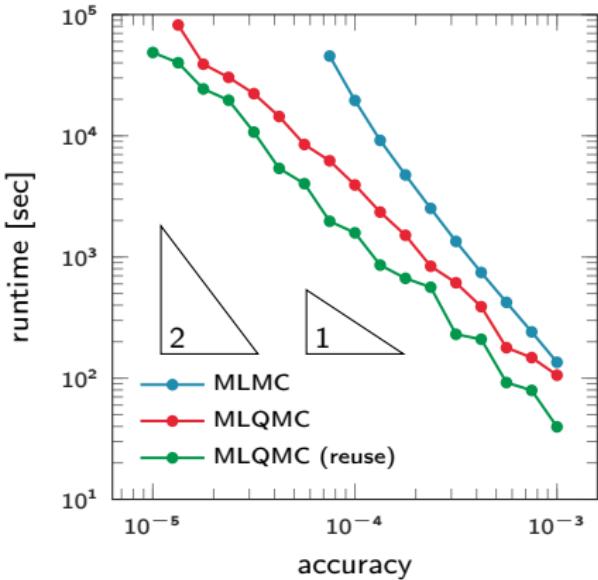


$\sim 3 \cdot 10^6$ samples on a 4×4 grid
 $\sim 2 \cdot 10^2$ samples on a 512×512 grid

Numerical results

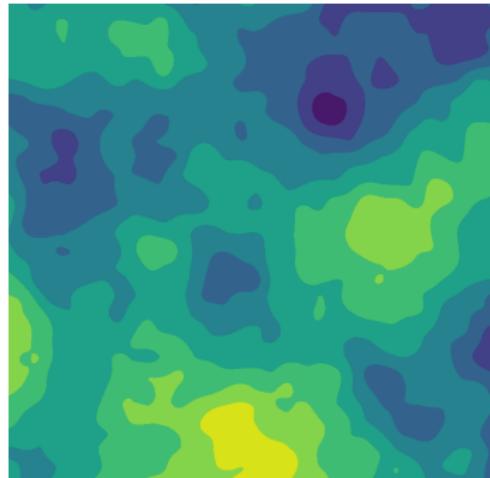


$\lambda = 0.3, \nu = 1$
1000 KL terms

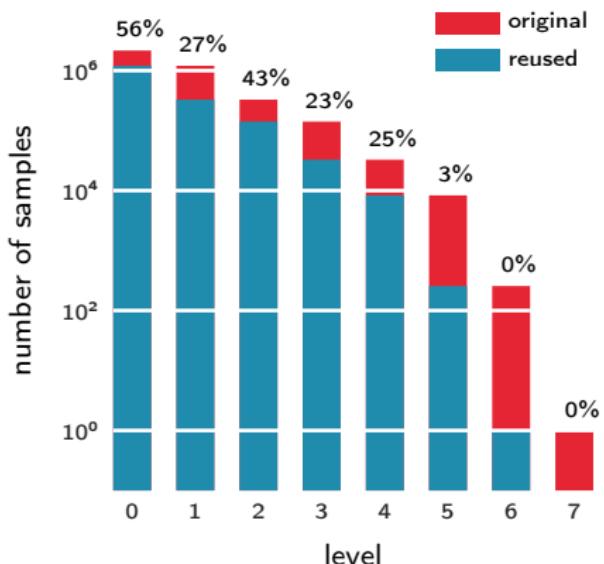


speedup vs MLMC:
 ~ 3.17 with MLQMC
 ~ 7.82 with MLQMC (reuse)

Numerical results



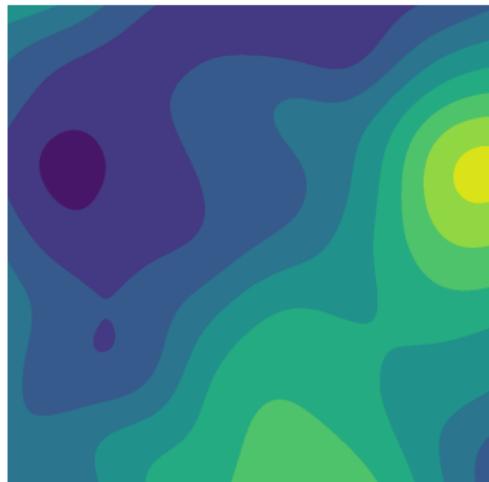
$\lambda = 0.3, \nu = 1$
1000 KL terms



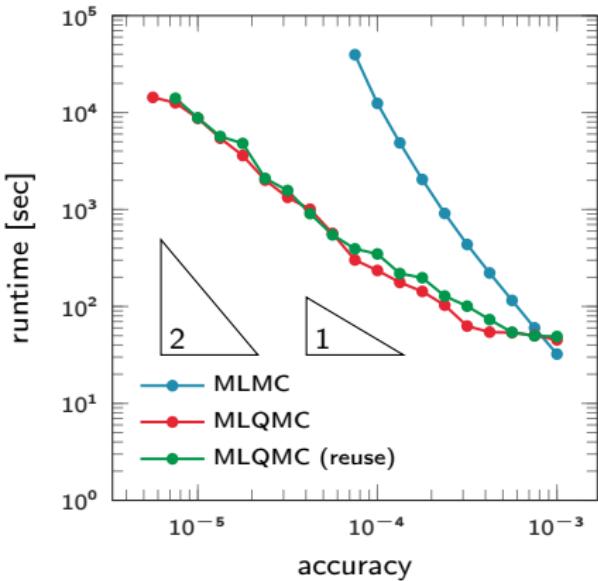
$\sim 2 \cdot 10^7$ samples on a 4×4 grid

$\sim 2 \cdot 10^{11}$ samples on a 512×512 grid

Numerical results

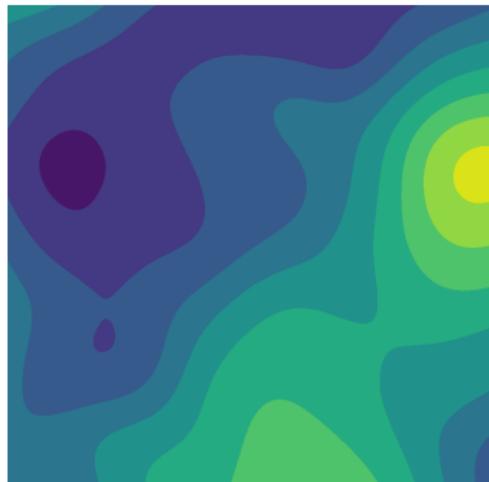


$\lambda = 0.5, \nu = 2$
100 KL terms

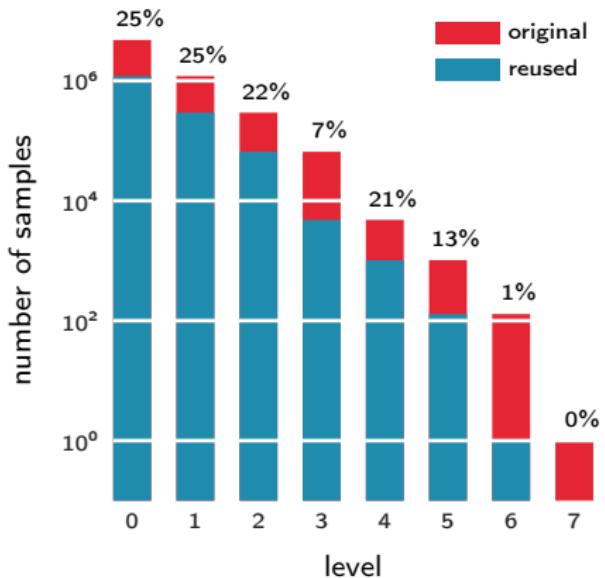


speedup vs MLMC:
~41.93 with MLQMC
~36.94 with MLQMC (reuse)

Numerical results



$\lambda = 0.5, \nu = 2$
100 KL terms

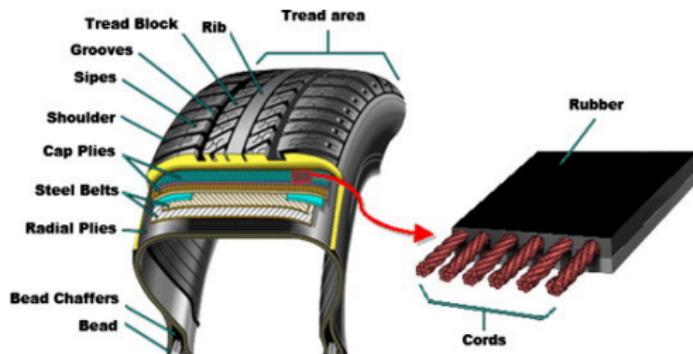


$\sim 7 \cdot 10^7$ samples on a 4×4 grid
 $\sim 2 \cdot 10^1$ samples on a 512×512 grid

PART 3

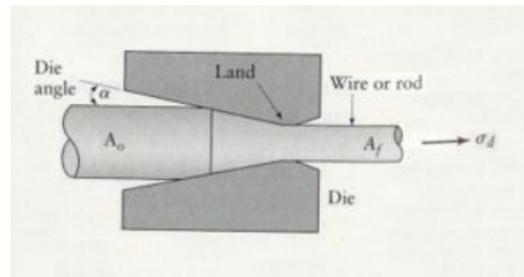
Application: Wire drawing and Bekaert

- Belgian company, est. 1880
- Steel wire transformation and coatings
- 30.000 people in 120 countries
- Physical Modelling Team

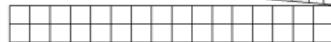
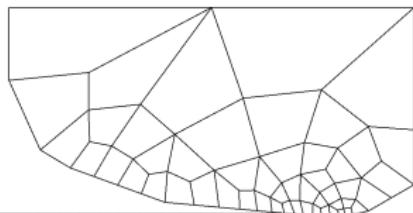


Wire drawing test case

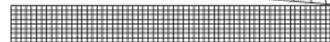
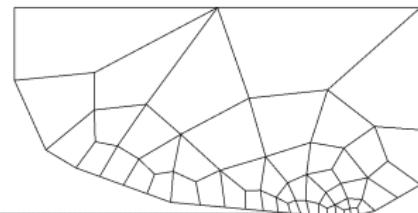
- 2d axisymmetric geometry with die and wire
- **22 uncertainties:** geometrical, physical, process-related...
- Quantity of interest: drawing force, stress distribution after several drawing passes



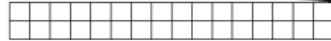
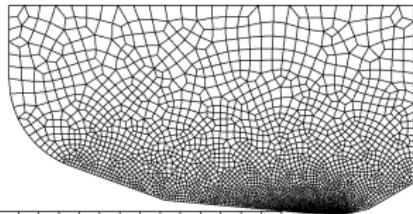
Selection of coarse approximations



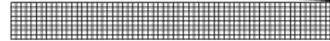
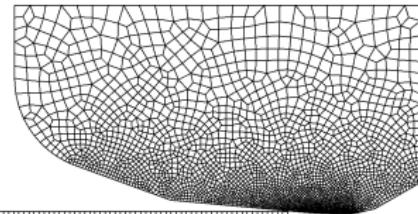
(0,0)



(0,2)

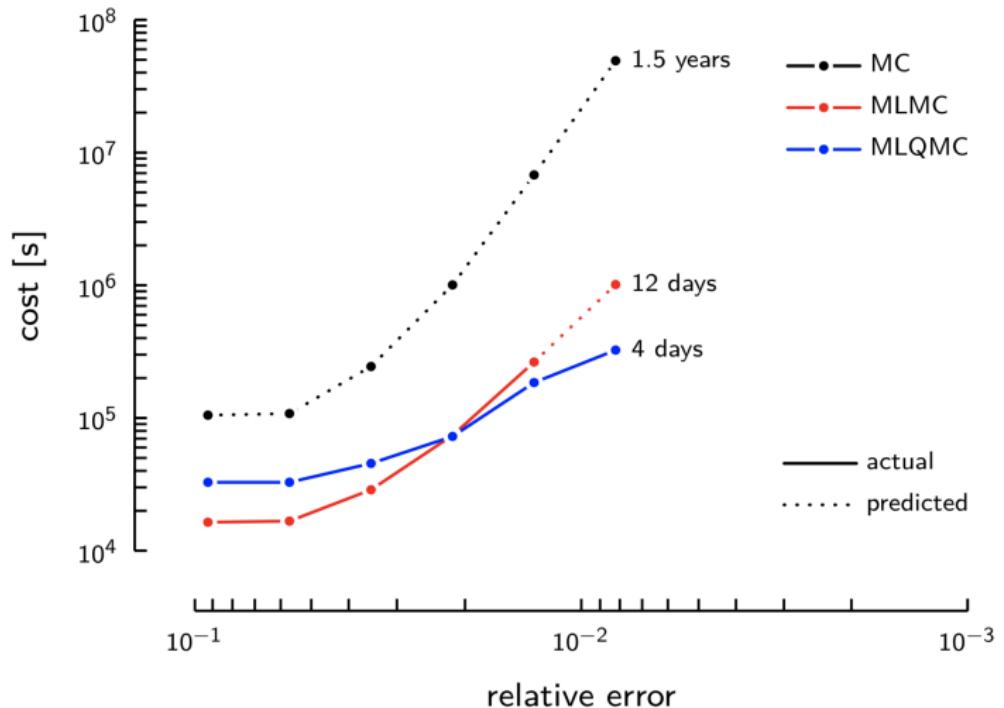


(3,0)



(3,2)

Results



Conclusions

- **MLMC** is an efficient **variance reduction** technique
 - Estimate differences between subsequent approximations and exploit telescoping sum to obtain cost reduction
 - Most samples are taken on the coarse grids, and only few samples are required on the finest grid
 - All benefits of Monte Carlo methods remain
- Discussed the **MG-MLQMC** extension
 - FMG solver yields free samples on coarse grids
 - Can be reused if care is taken not to introduce additional statistical error (\rightarrow random shifting from QMC)
- Application to real-life engineering problem
 - Can couple with existing code without much effort
 - Large gain by using the MLQMC method

Conclusions

- **MLMC** is an efficient **variance reduction** technique
 - Estimate differences between subsequent approximations and exploit telescoping sum to obtain cost reduction
 - Most samples are taken on the coarse grids, and only few samples are required on the finest grid
 - All benefits of Monte Carlo methods remain
- Discussed the **MG-MLQMC** extension
 - FMG solver yields free samples on coarse grids
 - Can be reused if care is taken not to introduce additional statistical error (\rightarrow random shifting from QMC)
- Application to real-life engineering problem
 - Can couple with existing code without much effort
 - Large gain by using the MLQMC method

Thank you for your attention