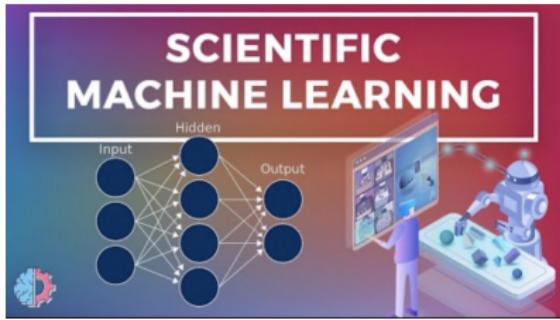


Developments of Multiscale and Probabilistic Methods for Solving PDEs and Inverse Problems

Yifan Chen, Caltech

Peking University, Feb, 2023

Scientific Computing and Learning



modeling, data, decision-making, ...

plenty of amazing things

simulation, prediction, design, ...

Scientific Computing and Learning

Mathematical Challenges:

Solving equations

- multiscale physics
- heterogeneous material
- large scale PDEs ...

Need many degrees of freedom
for enough **accuracy**

Learning solutions

- trials and errors
- training
- uncertainties ...

Sometimes machine learning
automation may not be robust

Research Goal: further **accuracy** and more reliable **automation**

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- 1 Exponentially Convergent Multiscale Methods for PDEs**
"how to get very accurate solutions via multiscale analysis"

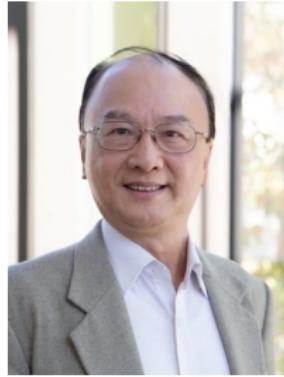
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"how to get reliable automated solutions via Bayes inference"

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Part I: Exponentially Convergent Multiscale Methods



Thomas Y. Hou
Caltech



Yixuan Wang
Caltech

Solving Multiscale PDEs

Model Problem:

$$-\nabla \cdot (A \nabla u) + Vu = f, \text{ in } \Omega, \text{ w/ boundary conditions}$$

(subsurface flows, diffusions, elasticity, waves in *composite* media)

Mathematical Condition:

- heterogeneity: $A, V \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ (no scale separation)
 $0 < A_{\min} \leq A(x) \leq A_{\max} < \infty$
- high frequency: e.g., $V = -k^2$ (Helmholtz's equation)
- regularity of force: $f \in L^2(\Omega)$

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Numerical Challenges

Galerkin's Method:

- find a space S of **basis functions** to approximate the solution
- quasi-optimality: solution err \sim approximation err

Challenges:

- heterogeneity $\Rightarrow u$ is **oscillatory**
(!) approx-err of FEM can be arbitrarily bad [Babuška, Osborn 2000]
- high frequency \Rightarrow stability issues¹

example: $\|u\|_{\mathcal{H}(\Omega)} \leq C_{\text{stab}}(k) \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$ for $C_{\text{stab}}(k) \succeq 1 + k^\gamma$

- (!) approx-err amplified; quasi-optimality also deteriorates
known as **pollution effect** [Babuška, Sauter, 1997]

¹ $\mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ is the energy norm

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Multiscale Methods / Numerical Homogenization / ...

Idea: find better basis functions **adapted to A and V**

- tremendous literature with different constructions (find structures)
(hp-FEM, GFEM, MsFEM, HMM, VMS, LOD, ...)

Our Focus: push approximation err further, for **exponential convergence**

- previous work for elliptic eqns based on GFEM [Babuška, Lipton 2011]²

Our contribution: ExpMsFEM [Chen, Hou, Wang 2021, 2022]

A general multiscale framework for elliptic and Helmholtz eqns

²further generalization to Helmholtz eqns [Ma, Alber, Scheichl 2021]

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How Could Exponential Convergence Be Achieved?

Principle: how exponential convergence possible for nonsmooth funcs?

- coarse-fine scale decomposition: diff-scales treated differently
- localize the approximation for both the coarse and fine components
- find low complexity structures of the coarse scale component

Instantiation in ExpMsFEM for finding exp-convergent representation

- 1 generalized harmonic-bubble splitting
- 2 edge localization
- 3 oversampling and exponentially decaying spectral problems

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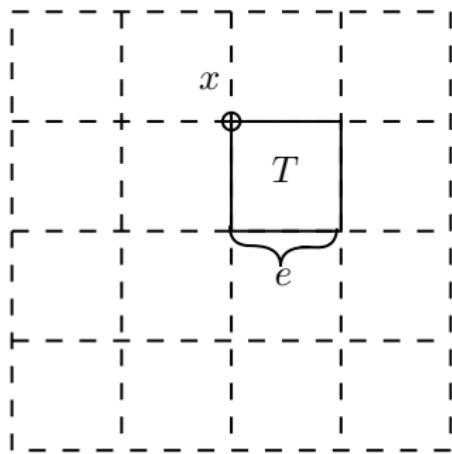
Step 1: Generalized Harmonic-bubble Splitting³

- mesh: $H = O(1/k)$
- split the solution locally:
in each T , $u = u_T^h + u_T^b$

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (A \nabla u_T^h) + Vu_T^h = 0, & \text{in } T \\ u_T^h = u, & \text{on } \partial T \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (A \nabla u_T^b) + Vu_T^b = f, & \text{in } T \\ u_T^b = 0, & \text{on } \partial T \end{cases}$$

- global function:
 $u^h(x) = u_T^h(x)$ locally “harmonic”
 $u^b(x) = u_T^b(x)$ locally computable
when $x \in T$ for each T



$$x \in \mathcal{N}_H, e \in \mathcal{E}_H, T \in \mathcal{T}_H$$

First Decomposition : $u = u^h + u^b$

³[Hetmaniuk, Lehoucq 2010], [Hou, Liu 2016]

Step 2: Edge Localization

Recall $u = u^h + u^b$ “locally harmonic + locally computable”

$$\begin{aligned} u^h &= Q\tilde{u} && (Q: \text{“harmonic” extension operator}; \tilde{u} = u|_{\text{edges}}) \\ &= Q(\tilde{u} - I_H\tilde{u}) + QI_H\tilde{u} && (I_H: \text{nodal interpolation on edges}) \\ &= Q(\tilde{u} - I_H\tilde{u}) + \sum_{x_i \in \mathcal{N}_H} u(x_i)\psi_i \\ &&& (\psi_i: \text{basis funcs in MsFEM [Hou, Wu 1997]}) \\ &= \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_H} QR_e u + \sum_{x_i \in \mathcal{N}_H} u(x_i)\psi_i && (R_e u = (\tilde{u} - I_H\tilde{u})|_e) \end{aligned}$$

u^h = “sum of terms dependent on each edge + a term represented by ψ_i ”

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Step 3: Oversampling⁴ and Low Complexity Structure

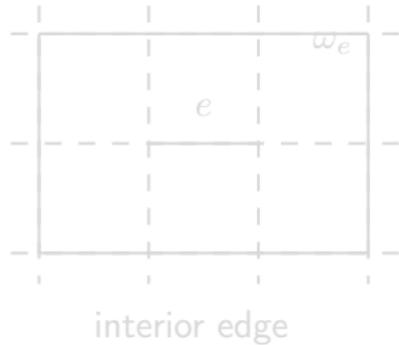
Oversampling: consider $e \subset \omega_e$

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Here, $u_{\omega_e}^h, u_{\omega_e}^b$: oversampling harmonic / bubble part in ω_e

Recall the definition:

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$QR_e u$ = “restriction of local harmonic funcs + locally computable”

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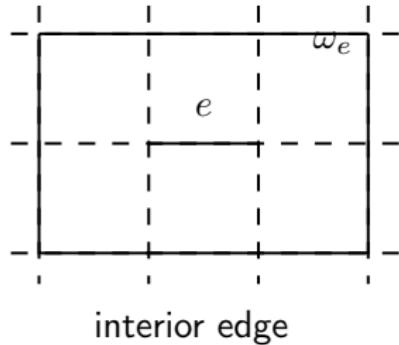
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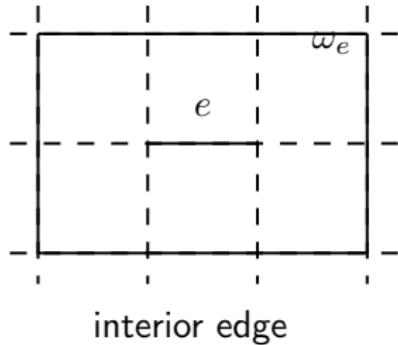
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Low complexity: restriction of “harmonic” funcs [Babuška, Lipton 2011]

- generalize to our context: singular values of the operator

$$QR_e : (U(\omega_e), \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{H}(\omega_e)}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{H}(\Omega), \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{H}(\Omega)})$$

decay exponentially fast [Chen, Hou, Wang 2021] , where

$$U(\omega_e) := \{v \in \mathcal{H}(\omega_e) : -\nabla \cdot (A \nabla v) + Vv = 0, \text{ in } \omega_e\}$$

- equivalently, for $m > 0$, there exists $b_{e,j}, v_{e,j}, 1 \leq j \leq m$ s.t.

$$\|QR_e u_{\omega_e}^h - \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} b_{e,j} v_{e,j}\|_{\mathcal{H}(\Omega)} \leq C \exp\left(-bm^{\frac{1}{d+1}}\right) \|u_{\omega_e}^h\|_{\mathcal{H}(\omega_e)}$$

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The Representation and Algorithm

$$u = \left(\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_H} \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} b_{e,j} v_{e,j} + \sum_{x_i \in \mathcal{N}_H} u(x_i) \psi_i \right) \\ + \left(u^b + \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_H} QR_e u_{\omega_e}^b \right) + O \left(\exp(-bm^{\frac{1}{d+1}}) (\|u\|_{\mathcal{H}(\Omega)} + \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}) \right)$$

Offline: one-time model reduction

- compute $\{v_{e,j}\}, 1 \leq j \leq m$ for each e , and ψ_i for each node
(local SVD and harmonic extension; **parallelizable**)

Online: efficient for multiple f

- compute $u^n = u^b + \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_H} QR_e u_{\omega_e}^b$
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Numerical Experiments: Helmholtz's Equation

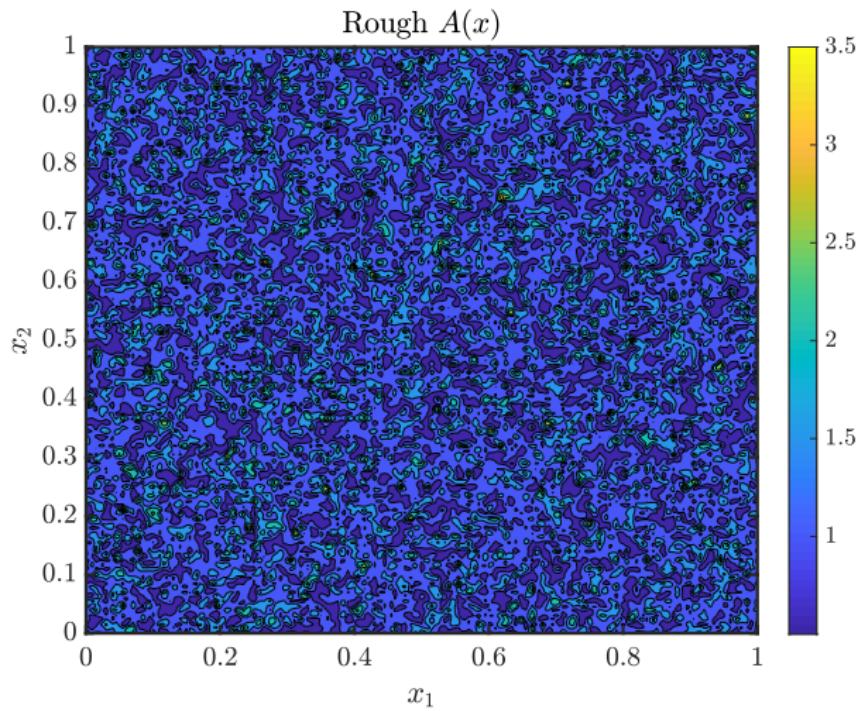
The problem set-up

- equation

$$-\nabla \cdot (A \nabla u) + Vu = f, \text{ in } \Omega = [0, 1]^2$$

- boundary condition: mixed (Dirichlet + Neumann + Robin)
- $A(x) = |\xi(x)| + 0.5$ where $\xi(x)$ is piecewise linear functions with values as unit Gaussians r.v.; piecewise scale: 2^{-7}
- $-V/k^2$ draws from the same random field; $k = 2^5$
- $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^4 - x_2^3 + 1$

Visualization of the Field



Numerical Experiments: Helmholtz's Equation

The mesh

- quadrilateral mesh
- fine mesh size $h = 2^{-10}$, coarse mesh size $H = 2^{-5}$

The accuracy of ExpMsFEM's solution compared to fine mesh solution

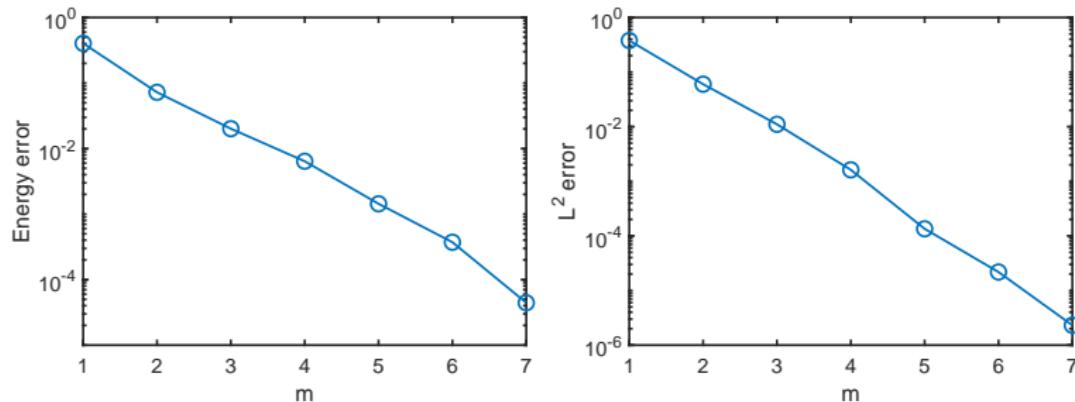


Figure: Numerical results for the mixed boundary and rough field example. Left: e_H versus m ; right: e_{L^2} versus m . Number of basis functions $(2m + 1)/H^2$

Summary of Part I

Exponentially convergent function representation

- multiscale (coarse-fine) decomposition is the key
- low complexity of the coarse part: restriction of harmonic-type funcs
- locality of the fine part: locally solvable

Future directions:

- advection-dominated problems
- time dependent problems
- non-intrusive model reduction and operator learning

multiscale analysis + low complexity structures

Outline

- 1 Exponentially Convergent Multiscale Methods for PDEs**
"how to get very accurate solutions via multiscale analysis"

- 2 Gaussian Processes for PDEs and Inverse Problems**
"how to get reliable automated solutions via Bayes inference"

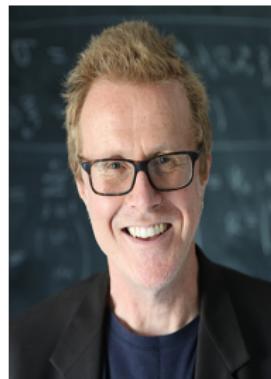
Part II: Gaussian Processes for PDEs and Inverse Problems



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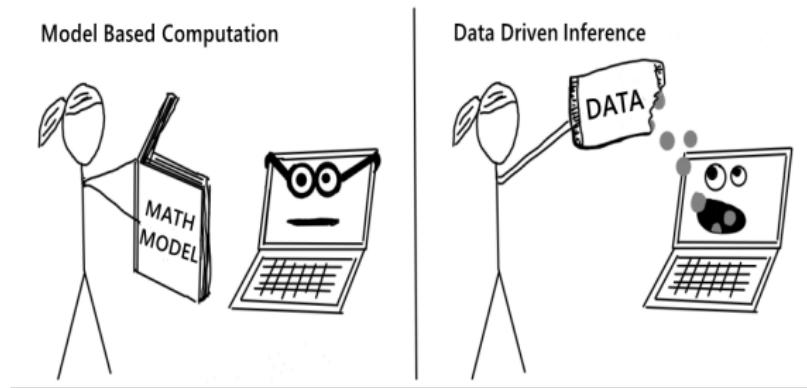


Andrew M. Stuart
Caltech

Scientific Machine Learning Automation

Expert designed numerical analysis: analyzing the equation

- finite difference/element/volume, spectral, multiscale methods ...
- well developed convergence theory, and robustness/efficiency tradeoff



Automatic machine learning paradigm: equation as data

- PINNs, deep Ritz methods, operator learning ...
- unify solving PDEs and inverse problems (IPs), algorithmically many empirical success; theory more complicated

Scientific Machine Learning Automation

Our Focus: Bridging the gap utilizing a Bayes framework⁵

Gaussian processes for automating solving [nonlinear PDEs/IPs](#)

[Chen, Hosseni, Owhadi, Stuart 2021]

⁵Information based complexity, Bayes probabilistic numerics, ...

The Methodology for Solving PDEs

A nonlinear elliptic PDE example

- Consider the stationary elliptic PDE

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u(\mathbf{x}) + \tau(u(\mathbf{x})) = f(\mathbf{x}), & \forall \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \\ u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), & \forall \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$

- Domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$.
- PDE data $f, g : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- PDE has a unique **strong/classical** solution u^* .

The Methodology⁶: Finding the MAP estimator

- 1 Choose a kernel $K : \bar{\Omega} \times \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (Choose the prior $\mathcal{GP}(0, K)$)
 - Corresponding RKHS \mathcal{U} with norm $\|\cdot\|$
- 2 Sample some collocation points (Choose the data/likelihood)
 - $X^{\text{int}} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{M_\Omega}\} \subset \Omega$
 - $X^{\text{bd}} = \{\mathbf{x}_{M_\Omega+1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{M_\Omega+M_{\partial\Omega}}\} \subset \partial\Omega$
- 3 Solve the optimization problem (Find the "MAP")

$$\begin{cases} \underset{u \in \mathcal{U}}{\text{minimize}} \|u\| \\ \text{s.t. } -\Delta u(\mathbf{x}_m) + \tau(u(\mathbf{x}_m)) = f(\mathbf{x}_m), \quad \text{for } \mathbf{x}_m \subset X^{\text{int}} \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad u(\mathbf{x}_n) = g(\mathbf{x}_n), \quad \text{for } \mathbf{x}_n \subset X^{\text{bd}} \end{cases}$$

Convergence of solution as number of points approaches infinity
[Chen, Hosseni, Owhadi, Stuart 2021]

⁶Generalize many mesh-free methods and Bayes probabilistic numerics

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How to Solve: Separating Nonlinearity

$$\begin{cases} \underset{u \in \mathcal{U}}{\text{minimize}} \|u\| \\ \text{s.t. } -\Delta u(\mathbf{x}_m) + \tau(u(\mathbf{x}_m)) = f(\mathbf{x}_m), \quad \text{for } \mathbf{x}_m \subset X^{\text{int}} \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad u(\mathbf{x}_n) = g(\mathbf{x}_n), \quad \text{for } \mathbf{x}_n \subset X^{\text{bd}} \end{cases}$$

$$\Updownarrow (N = M^{\text{bd}} + 2M^{\text{int}})$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underset{\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{z}^{\text{bd}}, \mathbf{z}^{\text{int}}, \mathbf{z}_{\Delta}^{\text{int}}) \in \mathbb{R}^N}{\text{minimize}} \\ \text{s.t. } \begin{aligned} & u(X^{\text{bd}}) = \mathbf{z}^{\text{bd}} \\ & u(X^{\text{int}}) = \mathbf{z}^{\text{int}} \\ & \Delta u(X^{\text{int}}) = \mathbf{z}_{\Delta}^{\text{int}} \\ & -\mathbf{z}_{\Delta}^{\text{int}} + \tau(\mathbf{z}^{\text{int}}) = f(X^{\text{int}}) \\ & \mathbf{z}^{\text{bd}} = g(X^{\text{bd}}) \end{aligned} \end{array} \right.$$

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How to Solve: Inner optimization

- The inner problem has linear constraints

$$\underset{u \in \mathcal{U}}{\text{minimize}} \|u\|$$

$$\text{s.t. } u(X^{\text{bd}}) = \mathbf{z}^{\text{bd}}, u(X^{\text{int}}) = \mathbf{z}^{\text{int}}, \Delta u(X^{\text{int}}) = \mathbf{z}_{\Delta}^{\text{int}}$$

Explicit formula for minimizer $u(\mathbf{x}) = K(\mathbf{x}, \phi)K(\phi, \phi)^{-1}\mathbf{z}$

- Measurement vector $\phi := (\delta_{X^{\text{bd}}}, \delta_{X^{\text{int}}}, \delta_{X^{\text{int}}} \circ \Delta) \in (\mathcal{U}^*)^{\otimes N}$
- Kernel vector and matrix

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \phi) = (K(\mathbf{x}, X^{\text{bd}}), K(\mathbf{x}, X^{\text{int}}), \Delta_y K(\mathbf{x}, X^{\text{int}})) \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

$$K(\phi, \phi) =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} K(X^{\text{bd}}, X^{\text{bd}}) & K(X^{\text{bd}}, X^{\text{int}}) & \Delta_y K(X^{\text{bd}}, X^{\text{int}}) \\ K(X^{\text{int}}, X^{\text{bd}}) & K(X^{\text{int}}, X^{\text{int}}) & \Delta_y K(X^{\text{int}}, X^{\text{int}}) \\ \Delta_x K(X^{\text{int}}, X^{\text{bd}}) & \Delta_x K(X^{\text{int}}, X^{\text{int}}) & \Delta_x \Delta_y K(X^{\text{int}}, X^{\text{int}}) \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

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How to Solve: Representation of the Minimizer

Representer theorem [Chen, Hosseni, Owhadi, Stuart 2021]

Every minimizer u^\dagger can be represented as

$$u^\dagger(\mathbf{x}) = K(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\phi})K(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1}\mathbf{z}^\dagger,$$

where the vector $\mathbf{z}^\dagger \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is a minimizer of

$$\begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^N} & \mathbf{z}^T K(\boldsymbol{\phi}, \boldsymbol{\phi})^{-1} \mathbf{z} \\ \text{s.t.} & F(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{y} \end{cases}$$

- Function $F : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$ depends on PDE collocation constraints
- \mathbf{y} contains PDE boundary and RHS data

Towards A Practical Algorithm

Quadratic optimization with nonlinear constraints

- A simple linearization algorithm $\mathbf{z}^k \rightarrow \mathbf{z}^{k+1}$

$$\begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^N} & \mathbf{z}^T K(\phi, \phi)^{-1} \mathbf{z} \\ \text{s.t.} & F(\mathbf{z}^k) + F'(\mathbf{z}^k)(\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{z}^k) = \mathbf{y}. \end{cases}$$

"Newton's iteration for the nonlinear PDE, faster than SGD"

- Poor conditioning of $K(\phi, \phi)$, and **scale imbalance** between blocks
Solution: adding **scale-aware** Tikhonov regularization

$$K(\phi, \phi) \leftarrow K(\phi, \phi) + \lambda \text{diag}(K(\phi, \phi))$$

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Numerical Experiments

- Nonlinear Elliptic Equation, $\tau(u) = u^3$

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u(\mathbf{x}) + \tau(u(\mathbf{x})) = f(\mathbf{x}), & \forall \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \\ u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), & \forall \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$

- Truth: $d = 2$, $u^\star(\mathbf{x}) = \sin(\pi x_1) \sin(\pi x_2) + 4 \sin(4\pi x_1) \sin(4\pi x_2)$
- Kernel: $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \sigma) = \exp\left(-\frac{|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$

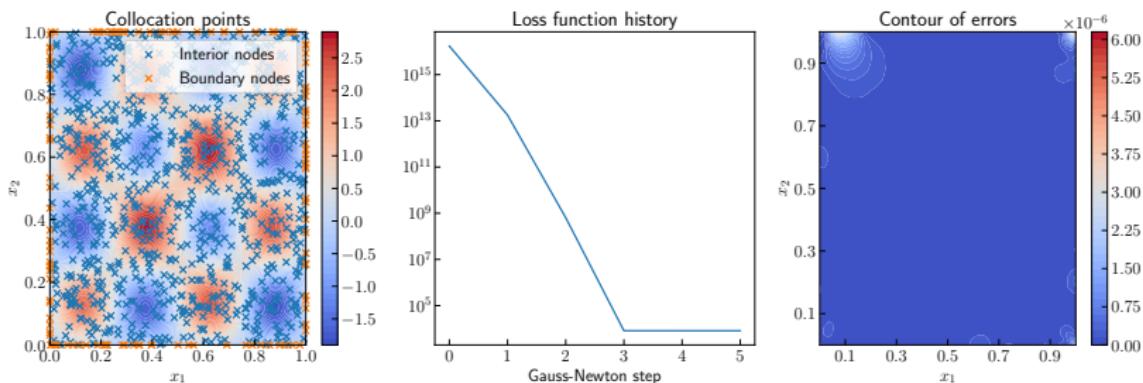


Figure: $N_{\text{domain}} = 900$, $N_{\text{boundary}} = 124$

Convergence Study

- For $\tau(u) = 0, u^3$, use Gaussian kernel with lengthscale σ
- L^2, L^∞ accuracy, compared with Finite Difference (FD)

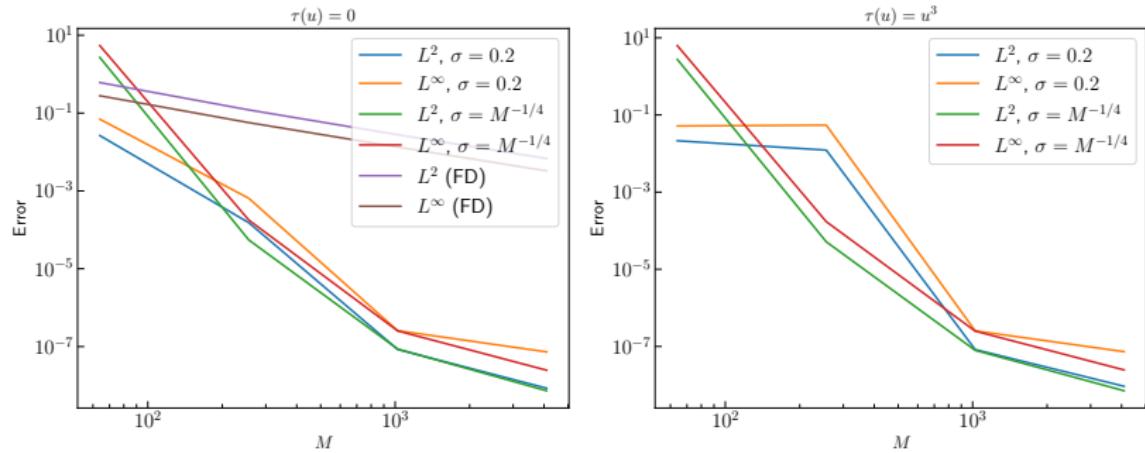
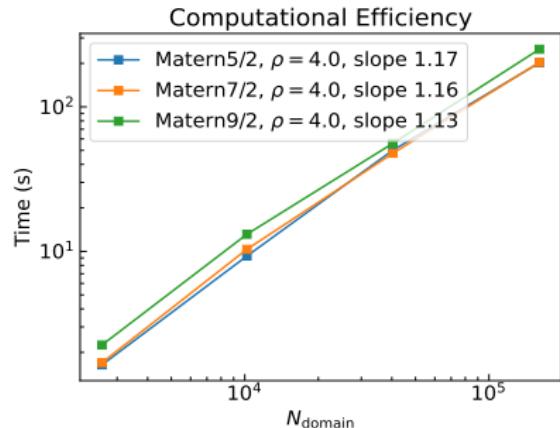
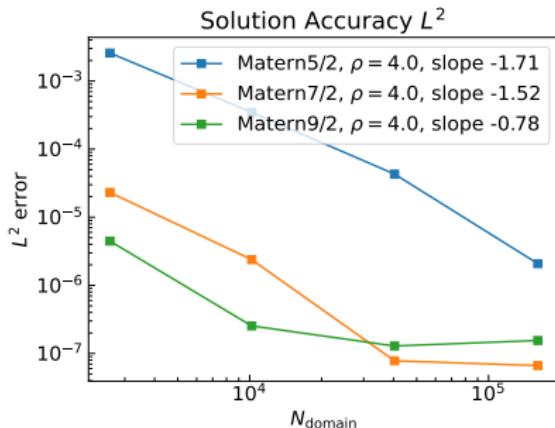


Figure: Convergence of the kernel method is fast, since the solution is smooth

Scalability: Sparse Cholesky Factorization

- Sparse Cholesky of $K(\phi, \phi)^{-1}$ under **coarse to fine** ordering of ϕ screening effects [Stein 2002], [Schäfer, Sullivan, Owhadi 2021]
- Complexity: $O(N\rho^d)$ memory and $O(N\rho^{2d})$ time; ρ is a parameter theory: $\rho = \log(N/\epsilon) \Rightarrow \epsilon$ -approximation of $K(\phi, \phi)^{-1}$ even when ϕ contains derivatives (best complexity so far) [Chen, Schäfer, Owhadi, 2023]



Matérn kernel with different ν . Run 3 Newton's iterations. Accuracy floor due to finite ρ and regularization

Numerical Experiments: Inverse Problems

Darcy Flow inverse problems

$$\begin{cases} \min_{u,a} \|u\|_K^2 + \|a\|_\Gamma^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} \sum_{j=1}^I |u(\mathbf{x}_j) - o_j|^2, \\ \text{s.t.} \quad -\operatorname{div}(\exp(a) \nabla u)(\mathbf{x}_m) = 1, \quad \forall \mathbf{x}_m \in (0,1)^2 \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad u(\mathbf{x}_m) = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{x}_m \in \partial(0,1)^2. \end{cases}$$

- Recover a from pointwise measurements of u
- Model (u, a) as independent GPs
- Impose PDE constraints and formulate Bayesian inverse problem

Numerical Experiments: Darcy Flow

- Kernel $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \sigma) = \exp\left(-\frac{|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}'|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$ for both u and a

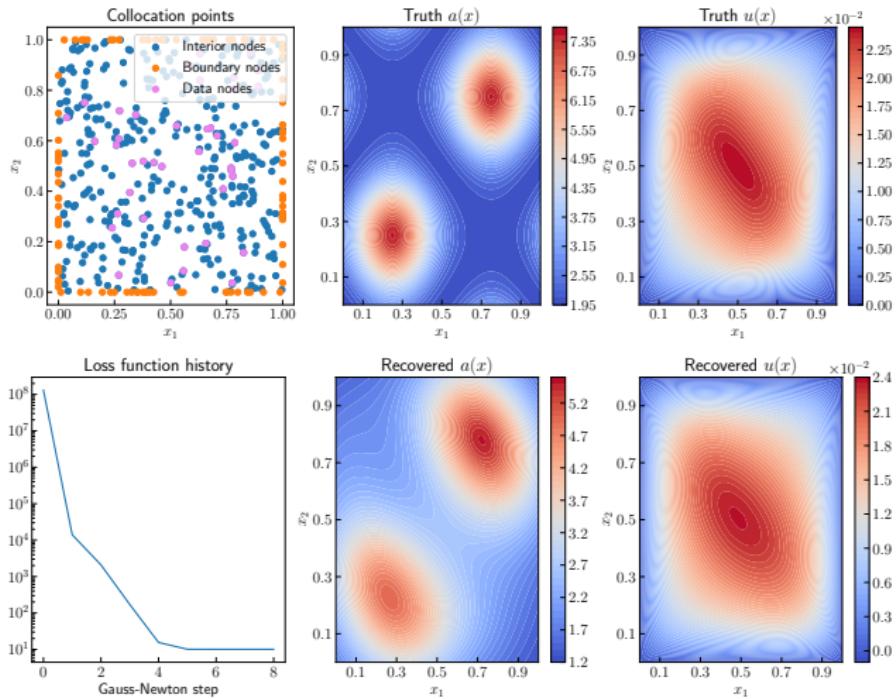


Figure: $N_{\text{domain}} = 400$, $N_{\text{boundary}} = 100$, $N_{\text{observation}} = 50$

Further Directions

GPs Model Misspecification: hierarchical learning to select k_θ

- analysis of large data consistency and implicit bias in learning θ
[Chen, Owhadi, Stuart 2021]

GPs Fast Solvers: multiscale algo for kernel matrices using probability

- randomly pivoted Cholesky: provably efficient low rank approximation
[Chen, Epperly, Tropp, Webber 2022]
- sparse Cholesky: state-of-the-art complexity $O(N \log^{2d}(N/\epsilon))$ in time
[w/ Florian Schäfer, Houman Owhadi]

Uncertainty Quantification: beyond point estimators; sampling

- affine invariant gradient flows, Gaussian mixtures, climate applications ...
[Chen, Huang, Huang, Reich, Stuart, 2023], ...

Fine-grained multiscale analysis + probabilistic inference

Thanks!

<https://yifanc96.github.io>