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Efficient Solution of Large-Scale Covariance Eigenproblems

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The Covariance Eigenproblem

- KL Expansion

- Asymptotics

- Conditioning

Numerical Solution

- Our Covariance Eigenvalue Code

- Hierarchical Matrix Techniques

- Adapted Quadrature Techniques

- Example

Stochastic UQ relies heavily on computations with **random fields**

$$a(\mathbf{x}, \omega), \quad \mathbf{x} \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \quad \omega \in \Omega,$$

with $(\Omega, \mathfrak{A}, P)$ a probability space.

Essential: ability to **separate stochastic and deterministic dependence** in the form

$$a(\mathbf{x}, \omega) \approx \sum_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}) \xi_j(\omega)$$

with deterministic functions ϕ_j and **random variables** ξ_j .

For random fields with finite variance, the most popular option is **Karhunen-Loève (KL) expansion**.

The Covariance Eigenproblem

KL Expansion

$$\text{Mean :} \quad \bar{a}(\mathbf{x}) := \langle a(\mathbf{x}, \cdot) \rangle := \int_{\Omega} a(\mathbf{x}, \omega) dP(\omega), \quad \mathbf{x} \in D,$$

$$\text{Covariance :} \quad c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \langle (a(\mathbf{x}, \cdot) - \bar{a}(\mathbf{x})) (a(\mathbf{y}, \cdot) - \bar{a}(\mathbf{y})) \rangle, \quad \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in D.$$

Hence

$$a(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = \bar{a}(\mathbf{x}) + \tilde{a}(\mathbf{x}, \omega) \quad \text{with} \quad \langle \tilde{a} \rangle \equiv 0.$$

KL expansion:

$$a(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = \bar{a}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_m} a_m(\mathbf{x}) \xi_m(\omega),$$

where $\{\xi_m\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$ are centered, uncorrelated RV and $\{\lambda_m, a_m\}$ the eigenpairs of the **covariance operator**

$$C : L^2(D) \rightarrow L^2(D), \quad (Cu)(\mathbf{x}) = \int_D u(\mathbf{y}) c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y},$$

converges in mean-square and uniformly on D .

For normalized eigenfunctions $a_m(\mathbf{x})$,

$$\text{Var}_a(\mathbf{x}) = c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \lambda_m a_m(\mathbf{x})^2,$$

$$\int_D \text{Var}_a(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \lambda_m \underbrace{(a_m, a_m)_D}_{=1} = \text{trace } C.$$

For constant variance (e.g., stationary RF),

$$\text{Var}_a \equiv \sigma^2 > 0, \quad \sum_m \lambda_m = |D| \sigma^2.$$

For computational purposes, KL expansion **truncated** after M terms:

$$a^{(M)}(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = \bar{a}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{m=1}^M \sqrt{\lambda_m} a_m(\mathbf{x}) \xi_m(\omega).$$

Truncation error

$$\left\langle \|a - a^{(M)}\|_{L^2(D)}^2 \right\rangle = \sum_{m=M+1}^{\infty} \lambda_m.$$

Choose M to retain sufficient fraction $\delta \in (0, 1)$ of total variance, i.e.,

$$\frac{\left\langle \|a - a^{(M)}\|_{L^2(D)}^2 \right\rangle}{\left\langle \|a\|_{L^2(D)}^2 \right\rangle} = \frac{\sum_{m=M+1}^{\infty} \lambda_m}{\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \lambda_m} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{m=1}^M \lambda_m}{|D|\sigma^2} < \delta.$$

The Covariance Eigenproblem

Isotropic Covariance Functions

$$c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = c(r), \quad r = \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2$$

Convenient parametrization: **Matérn class** of covariance kernels:

$$c(r) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2^{\nu-1} \Gamma(\nu)} \left(\frac{2\sqrt{\nu} r}{\rho} \right)^\nu K_\nu \left(\frac{2\sqrt{\nu} r}{\rho} \right)$$

K_ν : modified Bessel function of order ν

ν : smoothness parameter

ρ : correlation length parameter

Special cases:

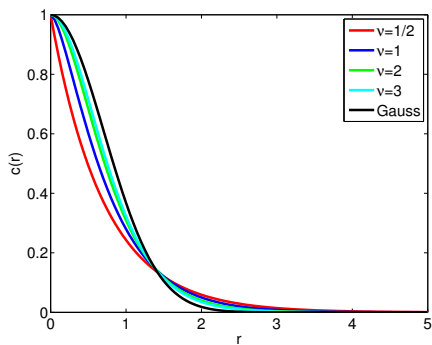
$$\nu = \frac{1}{2} : \quad c(r) = \sigma^2 \exp(-\sqrt{2}r/\rho) \quad \text{exponential covariance}$$

$$\nu = 1 : \quad c(r) = \sigma^2 \left(\frac{2r}{\rho} \right) K_1 \left(\frac{2r}{\rho} \right) \quad \text{Bessel covariance}$$

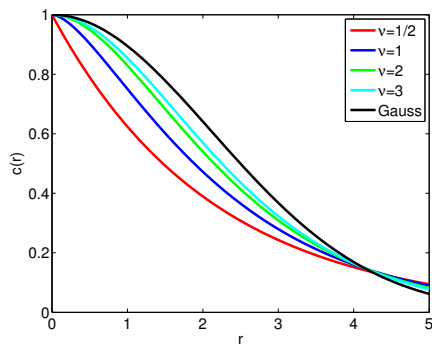
$$\nu \rightarrow \infty : \quad c(r) = \sigma^2 \exp(-r^2/\rho^2) \quad \text{Gaussian covariance}$$

The Covariance Eigenproblem

Isotropic Covariance Functions



$\rho = 1$



$\rho = 3$

Smoothness of realizations: RF a is s times mean-square differentiable if and only if $\nu > s$.

Eigenvalue Decay: the smoother the kernel, the faster $\{\lambda_m\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow 0$.
More precisely: if $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, then if the kernel function c is

piecewise H^s :	$\lambda_m \leq c_1 m^{-s/d}$
piecewise smooth :	$\lambda_m \leq c_2 m^{-s}$ for any $s > 0$
piecewise analytic :	$\lambda_m \leq c_3 \exp(-c_4 m^{1/d})$

for suitable constants c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 .

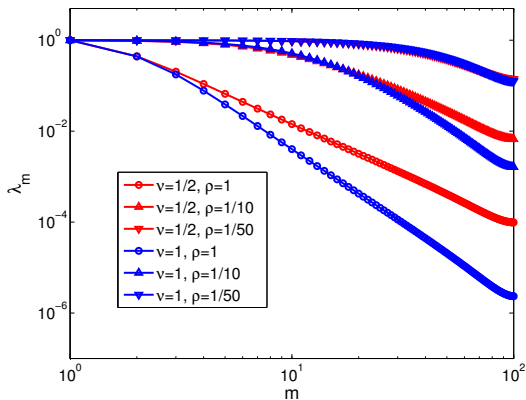
Note: piecewise smoothness of kernel also leads to bounds on derivatives of eigenfunctions a_m in $L^\infty(D)$.

Proven e.g. in [Schwab & Todor (2006)], [Todor (2006)]

The Covariance Eigenproblem

Preasymptotics

Before asymptotic decay (determined by the smoothness of the kernel) sets in, there is a preasymptotic **plateau** determined by the correlation length parameter.



Eigenvalue decay, Matérn covariance kernel, $D = [-1, 1]$.

The Covariance Eigenproblem

Conditioning

A common variance-reduction technique is to incorporate available measurement data for a given RF, e.g.,

$$a(\mathbf{x}_i, \omega) = \eta_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k, \quad \forall \omega \in \Omega, \quad (1)$$

at locations $\mathbf{x}_i \in D$, i.e., to consider the **RF a conditioned on (1)**.
(Other functionals than point evaluation are also possible.)

This is given by

$$a_k(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = a(\mathbf{x}, \omega) + \sum_{i,j=1}^k c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) [\mathbf{C}_k^{-1}]_{i,j} (\eta_j - a(\mathbf{x}_j, \omega)),$$

where $[\mathbf{C}_k]_{i,j} = c(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$, with covariance function

$$c_k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) - \sum_{i,j=1}^k c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) [\mathbf{C}_k^{-1}]_{i,j} c(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{y}).$$

- Piecewise constant **Galerkin** discretization on triangles/tetrahedra.
Results in generalized matrix eigenvalue problem

$$Cx = \lambda Mx,$$

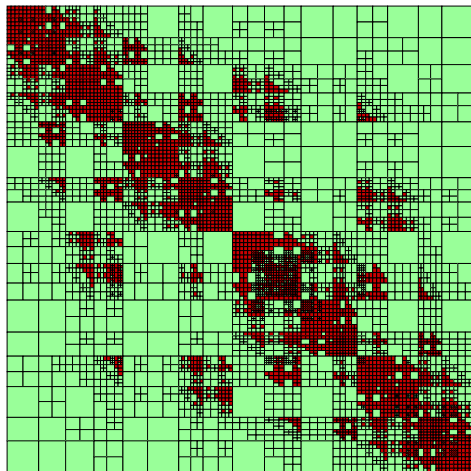
where M can be chosen diagonal but C is generally dense.

- Construction/storage of and multiplication with Galerkin matrix via **hierarchical matrix technique**.
- Near-field Galerkin blocks using **adapted quadrature**.
- **Thick-restart Lanczos** method for dominant eigenpairs of given order, extended to block variant for multiple eigenpairs.
- **Conditioning** of covariance on measured data via low-rank correction.

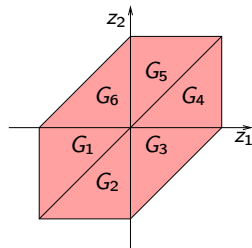
Numerical Solution

Hierarchical Matrix Techniques

- Algebraic variant of fast multipole method, [Hackbusch et al. (2000)]
- Partition dense matrix into square blocks of 2 types
 - full near field blocks,
 - low-rank far field blocks
- blocks correspond to clusters of degrees of freedom, i.e., clusters of supports of Galerkin basis functions
- yields data-sparse representation of matrix, construction $O(N \log N)$, matrix-vector product in $O(N)$.



- Slow convergence of quadrature error due to covariance kernels' lack of smoothness near diagonal $\{\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}\}$ of $D \times D$.
- For triangular elements distinguish cases of identical element, common edge, common point and regular case.
- E.g. for identical triangles, **difference coordinate** $z = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$ moves singularity to $z = 0$; integrating over (\mathbf{x}, z) -space leaves six triangles in z -plane, which can in turn be each mapped to a reference triangle.
- Change of variables concentrates and weakens singularity.
- Similar techniques often used in boundary element methods, cf. [Sauter & Schwab (2010)].

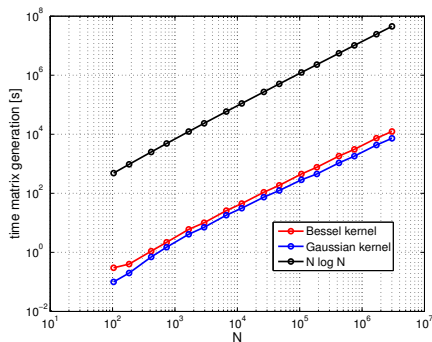


Example Performance

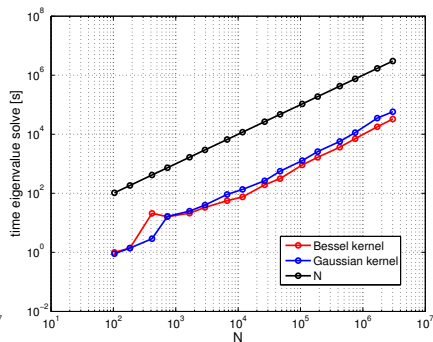
Bessel covariance ($\nu = 1$) on $D = [-1, 1]^2$, $\rho = 1/4$.

Compute leading 300 eigenpairs on sequence of uniformly refined triangular grids, resulting in $N = 104$ to $N = 3\,014\,656$ DOF.

Used Krylov space of dimension 500.



hierarchical matrix generation



eigenvalue calculation

Summary

- Reliable tool for large-scale covariance eigenvalue problems
- Memory and time requirements scale as $O(N \log N)$
- Mixture of Matlab and C code, uses HLIB 1.4 package from MPI Leipzig

In progress:

- In progress: adapted quadrature in 3D
- In progress: higher order L^2 -conforming discretization

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