# Solving the steady state diffusion equation with uncertainty 

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## Problem

The equation to be solved is

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\begin{equation*}
-\nabla \cdot(k(x, \omega) \nabla u)=f(x), \tag{1}
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$$
\begin{aligned}
u(x, \omega) & =g(x) \text { on } \partial D_{D} \\
\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} & =0 \text { on } \partial D_{n} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Outline of approach

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Validation

- Compare the moments of this solution to the moments obtained from solving the equation using the Monte-Carlo method.


## Karhunen-Loéve expansion

The expansion is

$$
\begin{equation*}
a(x, \vec{\xi})=\mu(x)+\sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_{s}} f_{s}(x) \xi_{s} . \tag{2}
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- The random variables $\xi_{s}$ are uncorrelated.
- The $\lambda_{s}$ and $f_{s}(x)$ are eigenpairs which satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
(\mathcal{C} f)(x)=\int_{D} C(x, y) f(y) d y=\lambda f(x) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $C(x, y)$ is the covariance function of the random field.

## Covariance matrix

The covariance matrix for a finite set of points $x_{i}$ in the spatial domain is

$$
\begin{equation*}
C\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\int_{\Omega}\left(a\left(x_{i}, \omega\right)-\mu\left(x_{i}\right)\right)\left(a\left(x_{j}, \omega\right)-\mu\left(x_{j}\right)\right) d P(\omega) \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
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where

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\begin{equation*}
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Denote the approximation to this matrix

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{i j}=C\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right) \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

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- For a uniform two-dimensional domain with interval sizes $h_{x}$ and $h_{y}$, the problem to solve is

$$
\begin{equation*}
h_{x} h_{y} C V=\Lambda V \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Covariance matrix

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- When the covariance function for a random field is known, the covariance matrix is constructed by evaluating the function at each pair of points.
- Otherwise, $n$ samples can be taken at each spatial point to form the sample covariance matrix, $\widehat{C}$.

$$
\begin{gather*}
\widehat{C}_{i j}=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n}\left(a\left(x_{i}, \xi_{k}\right)-\hat{\mu}_{i}\right)\left(a\left(x_{j}, \xi_{k}\right)-\hat{\mu}_{j}\right) \\
\hat{\mu}_{i}=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} a\left(x_{i}, \xi_{k}\right) \tag{10}
\end{gather*}
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- Then the sample covariance matrix can be written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\widehat{C}=\frac{1}{n} B B^{T} . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Sample covariance matrix

- Consider the singular value decomposition of $B=U \Sigma V^{T}$.


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## Sample covariance matrix

- Consider the singular value decomposition of $B=U \Sigma V^{T}$.
- The eigenvalues of $\widehat{C}$ will be $\frac{1}{n} \Sigma^{2}$.
- The eigenvectors of $\widehat{C}$ will be the columns of $U$.
- Using this approach ensures that small numerical errors will not produce imaginary eigenvalues.


## Gaussian random field

- A Gaussian random field in one dimension has covariance function

$$
\begin{equation*}
C\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right)=\sigma^{2} \exp \left(-\left|x_{1}-x_{2}\right| / b\right) \tag{13}
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- $\sigma^{2}$ is the (constant) variance of the stationary random field and $b$ is the correlation length.
- Large values of $b$ : random variables at points that are near each other are highly correlated.


## Gaussian random field

- Exact solutions for the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions are known [9].

$$
\begin{align*}
& \lambda_{n}=\sigma^{2} \frac{2 b}{\omega_{n}^{2}+b^{2}}  \tag{14}\\
& \lambda_{n}^{*}=\sigma^{2} \frac{2 b}{\omega_{n}^{* 2}+b^{2}} \tag{15}
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where $\omega_{n}$ and $\omega_{n}^{*}$ solve the following:

$$
\begin{gather*}
b-\omega \tan (\omega a)=0  \tag{16}\\
\omega^{*}+b \tan \left(\omega^{*} a\right)=0 \tag{17}
\end{gather*}
$$

## Gaussian random field

- The random variables in the expansion are $\xi_{s} \sim N(0,1)$.

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\begin{equation*}
a(x, \vec{\xi})=\mu(x)+\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_{n}} f_{n}(x) \xi_{n} \tag{18}
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- For a two-dimensional Gaussian field

$$
\begin{equation*}
C\left(\left(x_{1}, y_{1}\right),\left(x_{2}, y_{2}\right)\right)=\sigma^{2} \exp \left(\frac{-\left|x_{1}-x_{2}\right|}{b_{1}}-\frac{-\left|y_{1}-y_{2}\right|}{b_{2}}\right) \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Verification for 1D Gaussian random field

Three methods were used to find the eigenvalues of a one-dimensional $N(0,1)$ Gaussian random field on $D=[-1,1]$ with step size $h=.02$.

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Implemented using Matlab and made use of functions written by E . Ullman 2007-10.

## Gaussian random field 1D



Figure: Eigenvalues of Gaussian random field with parameters $b=1$, $n=10000$ for the three methods. Methods 1 and 2 produce nearly identical results.

## Gaussian random field 1D



Figure: The eigenvalues of the sampling method converge as the number of samples, $n$ is increased.

## Gaussian random field 1D



Figure: The effect of correlation length, $b$, on the eigenvalues

## Gaussian random field

- Verified three methods using a two-dimensional domain $D=[0,1] \times[0,1]$ as well.
- Eigenvectors also agree.


## Lognormal random field

- If $a(x, \xi)$ is a Gaussian random variable, $k(x, \xi)=\exp (a(x, \xi))$ is lognormal at every point in the spatial domain.


## Lognormal random field

- If $a(x, \xi)$ is a Gaussian random variable, $k(x, \xi)=\exp (a(x, \xi))$ is lognormal at every point in the spatial domain.
- If $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$ and $X=\ln (Y)$, the lognormal random variable $Y$ has the following results [10]:

$$
\begin{gather*}
E[Y]=e^{\sigma^{2} / 2}  \tag{20}\\
\operatorname{Var}[Y]=e^{2 \mu+\sigma^{2}}\left(e^{\sigma^{2}}-1\right)  \tag{21}\\
L C\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right)=e^{2 \mu+\sigma^{2}}\left(e^{C\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right)}-1\right) . \tag{22}
\end{gather*}
$$

## Lognormal random field 1D



Figure: The eigenvalues obtained using the sample covariance matrix, converge to the analytic covariance matrix results as the number of samples is increased. Tests use correlation length $b=1$.

## Summary

- Confirmed sampling procedure for determining eigenpairs of a lognormal field.


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- Ultimately analytic covariance function will be used compute the eigenpairs used in the KL expansion of $k$ :

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k(x, \vec{\eta})=\mu(x)+\sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_{s}} f_{s}(x) \eta_{s} . \tag{23}
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- What is the distribution of the $\eta_{s}$ ?


## Schedule

Stage 2: December

- Finish construction of the principal components analysis
- Write code which generates Monte-Carlo solutions

Stage 3: January- February

- Run the Monte-Carlo simulations
- Write solution method

Stage 4: March - April

- Run numerical method
- Analyze accuracy and validity of the method


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