

# Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

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- 1 Problem formulation
- 2 Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm
- 3 Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates
- 4 Adapting CP to GPR
- 5 Conclusion

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

- 1 Problem formulation
- 2 Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm
- 3 Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates
- 4 Adapting CP to GPR
- 5 Conclusion

For a computer code  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  used in industrial applications, the Uncertainty Quantification (UQ) methodology aims at evaluating how uncertainty on the inputs  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  affects our knowledge of the output  $g(X) \subseteq Y$  [De Rocquigny et al., 2008].

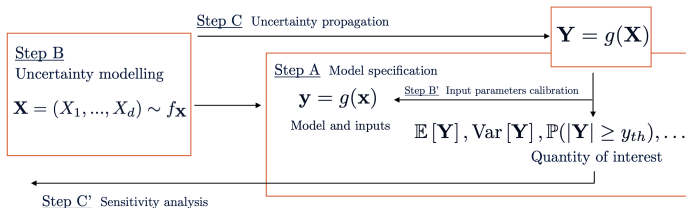


Figure – General UQ methodology.

Since these codes are time-costly, surrogates  $g$  are constructed for performing heavy simulations like Monte-Carlo batch runs for Step C, C'.

For objective reasons, one needs to assess the *quality* of these surrogates.

We propose to use the Conformal prediction paradigm [Vovk et al., 2005] which is a generic, model-agnostic theory allowing to build *prediction* sets to these surrogates with frequentist coverage guarantees.

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

General CP in regression

The Jackknife+ /minmax estimator

CV+ /minmax estimator

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

① Problem formulation

② Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

General CP in regression

The Jackknife+ /minmax estimator

CV+ /minmax estimator

③ Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

④ Adapting CP to GPR

⑤ Conclusion

[Vovk et al., 2005]. We fix a probability space  $(\mathcal{Z}; \mathcal{F}; \mathbb{P})$ .

## Definition

Let  $X; Y$  be metric spaces and  $Z = X \times Y$ . Let  $n \geq 1$  and  $D = (Z_1; \dots; Z_n) \in \mathcal{Z}^n$  a training sample. For  $\alpha \in (0; 1)$  a conformal predictor of coverage  $\alpha$  is any measurable function of the form :

$$C : \mathcal{Z}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \quad (1)$$

$$(D; X) \mapsto C_n; (X);$$

such that for a new point  $Z_{n+1} = (X_{n+1}; Y_{n+1}) \in Z$  :

$$\mathbb{P}(Y_{n+1} \in C_n; (X_{n+1})) \leq \alpha \quad (2)$$

Three main methods exist to estimate these set-functions : full-conformal, split-conformal and cross-conformal estimators. We focus on the latter.

# Full-Conformalized Ridge Regression (CRR)

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

General CP in regression

The Jackknife+ /minmax estimator

CV+ /minmax estimator

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

[Vovk et al., 2005] A non-conformity score is any measurable function of the form :

$$A: \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (D; Z) \mapsto A(D; Z) \quad (3)$$

Assume  $X = Y = \mathbb{R}$  and  $R_D$  a regression rule learned on  $D = fZ_1; \dots; Z_n g = f(X_1; Y_1); \dots; (X_n; Y_n) g$ . A straightforward non-conformity score is given by the difference between prediction and actual value, for all  $i = 1; \dots; n$  :

$$A(D; Z_i) = Y_i - R_D(X_i) = Y_i - \hat{y}_i \quad (4)$$



# Full-Conformalized Ridge Regression (CRR)

For a new input  $X_{n+1} \in X$  and output  $Y \in Y$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{D} := D \cup (X_{n+1}; Y)$ . The full conformal predictor is given for all confidence level  $0 < \alpha < 1$  by :

$$\hat{C}_{n; \alpha}^{CRR}(X_{n+1}) = \left\{ Y \in Y : \frac{\#\{i : A(\mathcal{D}; Z_i) \leq A(\mathcal{D}; (X_{n+1}; Y))\}}{n} \leq \alpha \right\}$$

This estimator is based on the "dissimilarity" of the new pair inside the updated dataset. It achieves the required coverage property.

It is computationally intractable due to the full grid search on the label space  $Y$ .

To tackle this, more advanced estimators are proposed in the following.

In the rest of this talk we suppose that  $Y = g(X)$  where  $g$  is some deterministic function (e.g a numerical simulation code).

# The Jackknife+ estimator

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

General CP in regression

The Jackknife+ /minmax estimator

CV+ /minmax estimator

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

[Barber et al., 2021]. We train a metamodel  $\hat{g}$  on  $D$  and  $n$  leave-one-out metamodels  $\hat{g}_i$  on  $D_{-i}(X_i; g(X_i))$ . The Jackknife+ estimator is given by :

$$\hat{C}_{n;+}^{\text{JK}}(X_{n+1}) = \hat{q}_{n;+}(\hat{g}(X_{n+1}) - R_i^{\text{LOO}}; \hat{q}_{n;+}^*(\hat{g}_i(X_{n+1}) + R_i^{\text{LOO}})) \quad (5)$$

Where the leave-one-out error defined by :

$$R_i^{\text{LOO}} := |g(X_i) - \hat{g}_i(X_i)| \quad (6)$$

With this estimator we have a coverage guarantee of  $1 - 2\alpha$ .

However, these intervals have almost constant width for any new point.

Let  $K \geq 2, n_1, \dots, n_K$ . We divide  $D^{\text{train}}$  in  $K$ -disjoint subsets  $S_1, \dots, S_K$ .

We fit  $K$  metamodels with the  $k$ -th fold removed:  $\hat{g}_{S_k}$ .

We compute the conformity scores :

$$R_i^{\text{CV}} := \hat{g}(X_i) - \hat{g}_{S_{k(i)}}(X_i); \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}; \quad (7)$$

where  $S_{k(i)}$  is the fold containing  $X_i$ .

We estimate our prediction intervals :

$$\hat{C}_{n; }^{\text{CV}+}(X_{n+1}) = \hat{q}_{n; } - \hat{g}_{S_{k(i)}}(X_{n+1}) - R_i^{\text{CV}} \quad (8)$$

## Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

### Problem formulation

### Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

General CP in regression

The Jackknife+ /minmax estimator

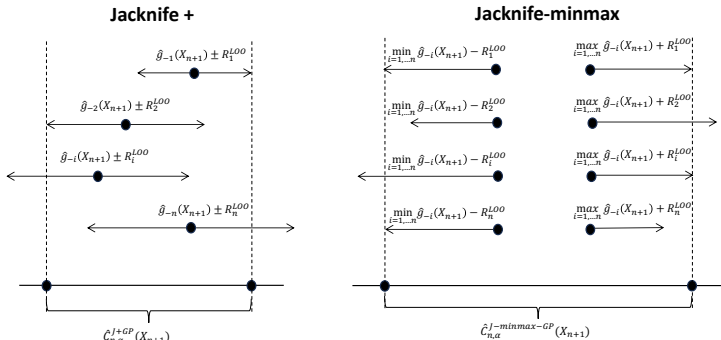
CV+ /minmax estimator

### Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

### Adapting CP to GPR

### Conclusion

### Références



with  $R_i^{LOO} = |Y_i - \hat{g}_{-i}(X_i)|$



Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Credibility sets

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

- 1 Problem formulation
- 2 Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm
- 3 Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates  
Credibility sets
- 4 Adapting CP to GPR
- 5 Conclusion

# Gaussian Process Regression (GPR)

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

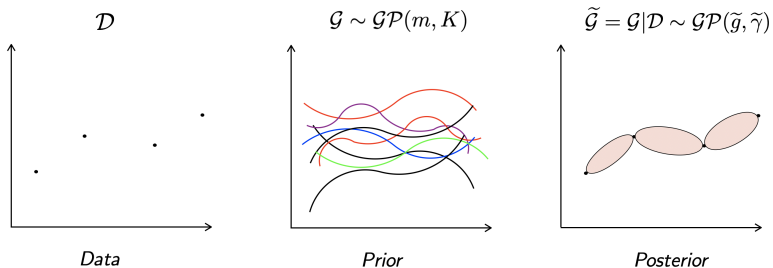
Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Credibility sets

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références



# Bayesian credibility intervals

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Credibility sets

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

Since we are in a Gaussian setting, we can have access to the confidence intervals for any new point  $X_{n+1} \in \mathcal{X}$  :

$$CR(X_{n+1}) = \mathbb{h} \left( \mathbf{g}(X_{n+1}) - F^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\sigma(X_{n+1})}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \quad (12)$$

which in our case are credibility intervals. Here  $F$  is the CDF of the standard normal distribution.

If  $g$  was *truly* drawn from our posterior  $G_j(X; g(X))$ , then we would have the exact coverage :

$$P(g(X_{n+1}) \in CR(X_{n+1})) = 1 \quad ; \quad (13)$$

and  $CR(X_{n+1})$  would be the true prediction interval for the true  $g$ .



In practice we don't have access to the true distribution  $P_{(X;g(X))}$ . If we dispose of a test dataset :

$$D^{test} = f(X_1;g(X_1));:::;(X_m;g(X_m))g; \quad (14)$$

*different* from  $D$ , then in all generality we cannot expect to have :

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}_{f(X_i) \in CR(X_i)} \geq 1 - \alpha; \text{ a.s.} \quad (15)$$

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

The Burnaev-Wasserman Program  
J+GP

Conclusion

Références

- 1 Problem formulation
- 2 Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm
- 3 Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates
- 4 Adapting CP to GPR**  
The Burnaev-Wasserman Program  
J+GP
- 5 Conclusion

# The Burnaev-Wasserman program

Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

The Burnaev-Wasserman Program  
J+GP

Conclusion

Références

[Burnaev and Vovk, 2014] Assume that  $X_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , for all  $i$ ,  $X_i \succeq L^2(\cdot)$  and the model  $g$  is truly gaussian. The credibility sets have exact coverage and output an interval of the form :

$$CR(X_{n+1}) = [B^-; B^+] \quad (16)$$

The CRR method with the GPR rule outputs a prediction interval of the form :

$$C_{n;}^{CRR}(X_{n+1}) = [C^-; C^+] \quad (17)$$

A natural question is to compare the differences of the bounds of these two intervals and their asymptotic behaviour

See [Burnaev and Vovk, 2014] for a proof of the following.

## Theorem

*Under the above assumptions we get*

$$P_{\bar{n}}(B \subset C) \stackrel{\text{Law}}{\underset{n!}{\rightarrow}} N(0; h(\cdot)); \quad (18)$$

*and similarly for the lower-bound.*

Here  $h$  is a function of the  $1 - \alpha$ -quantile of the standard normal distribution and of the mean and variance of the input distribution.

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Conformal prediction for surrogate modelling in the UQ framework

Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

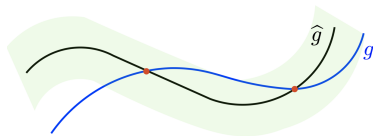
Adapting CP to GPR

The Burnaev-Wasserman Program  
J+GP

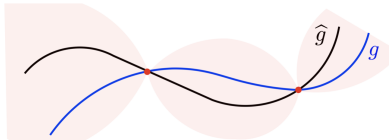
Conclusion

Références

Conformal Prediction



Gaussian Processes



Adaptive Conformal Prediction for better  
Uncertainty Quantification

$$P(g(X) \in C_{\hat{g}}(X)) \geq 1 - \alpha \quad (19)$$

The idea is to adapt the Jackknife+ method presented earlier to GPR metamodels to have adaptive prediction intervals. We denote these predictors as  $\hat{C}_{n;}^{J+GP}$  and can prove the following theorem :

### Theorem

Assume  $D = (X; g(X))$  is exchangeable. For a new point  $X_{n+1} \in X$  and a coverage level  $\gamma \in (0; 1)$  :

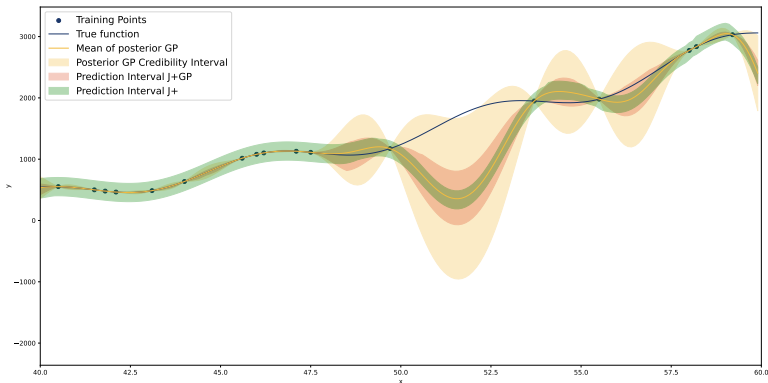
$$\mathbb{P} \left( g(X_{n+1}) \in \hat{C}_{n;}^{J+GP}(X_{n+1}) \right) \geq 1 - \gamma \quad (20)$$

# Example on a toy function

The Vincent Blot<sup>©</sup> highly original  $g_{VB}$  :

$$g_{VB}(x) = 3x \sin(x) - 2x \cos(x) + \frac{x^3}{40} - \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 10x; \quad (21)$$

which we sample at ease.



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Problem formulation

Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm

Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates

Adapting CP to GPR

Conclusion

Références

- 1 Problem formulation
- 2 Conformal prediction (CP) paradigm
- 3 Gaussian Process Regression (GPR) surrogates
- 4 Adapting CP to GPR
- 5 Conclusion



Conformal prediction is a method for performing distribution-free uncertainty quantification of machine learning algorithms.

It can be used in a Bayesian regression setting for testing the soft-assumption on the original model.

Prediction intervals for Gaussian Processes using an adaptation of the CP algorithms can be built (upcoming paper [Jaber and Blot, 2023] - in progress).

A more robust uncertainty quantification of this type of surrogates can be achieved and can thus serve in assessing their quality for the purpose of performing industrial UQ.

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