

Poincaré inequalities for dimension reduction and efficient sampling

Part III: Dimension reduction for Bayesian inverse problems

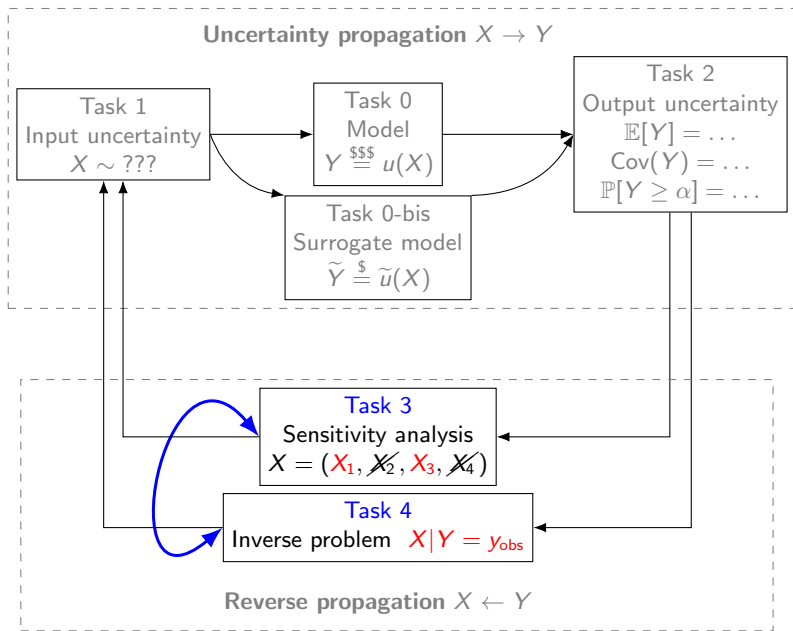
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ETICS

October 2025



Inverse problem

Given an observation y_{obs} of

$$Y = u(X_1, \dots, X_d) + \varepsilon,$$

where $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_{\text{obs}})$, how to identify the parameter X which is the most coherent with this observation?

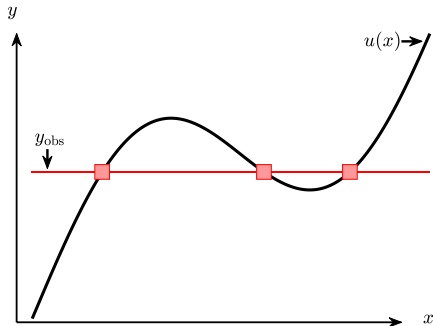
The Bayesian perspective: update the “knowledge” on X after observing y_{obs} .

$$\pi_X(x)$$



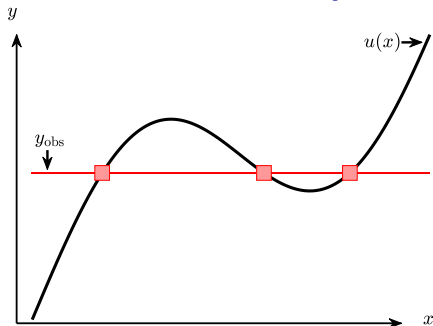
$$\pi_{X|Y}(x|y_{\text{obs}})$$

Variational

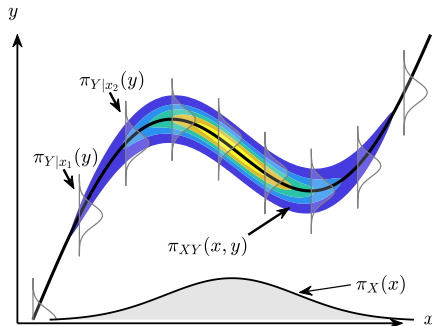


$$\min_x \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \|y_{\text{obs}} - u(x)\|_{\Sigma_{\text{obs}}^{-1}}^2}_{\text{data mismatch}} + \underbrace{\lambda \mathcal{R}(x)}_{\text{regularization}}$$

Variational V.S. Bayesian

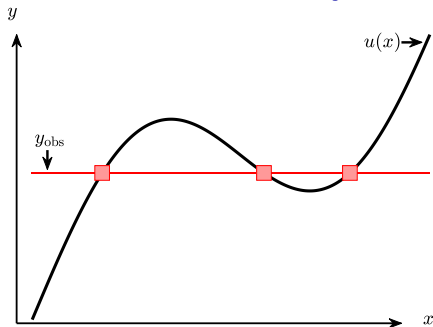


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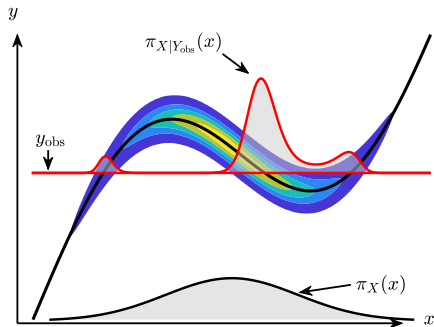


$$\underbrace{\pi_{XY}(x, y)}_{\text{joint}} = \underbrace{\pi_{Y|X}(y|x)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{\pi_X(x)}_{\text{prior}}$$

Variational V.S. Bayesian



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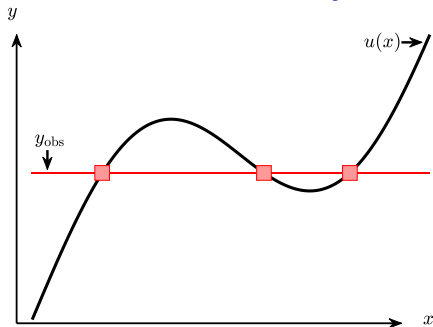


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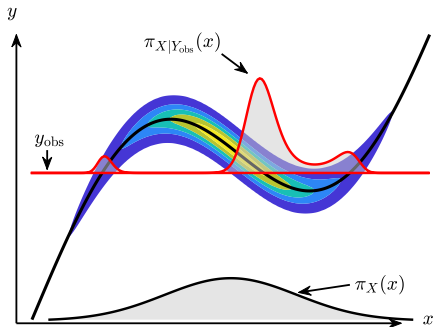
Given y_{obs} , the **posterior** is given by

$$\pi_{X|Y_{\text{obs}}}(x) \propto \pi_{Y|X}(y_{\text{obs}}|x) \pi_X(x)$$

Variational V.S. Bayesian



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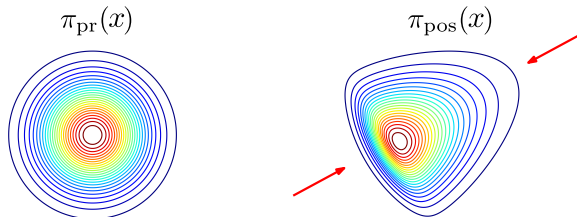
$$\pi_{X|Y_{\text{obs}}}(x) \propto \pi_{Y|X}(y_{\text{obs}}|x) \pi_X(x)$$

Curse of dimensionality $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$

Standard sampling algorithms (MCMC, Importance Sampling, Particle Filters) **struggle when** $d \gg 1$ (slow mixing, weight degeneracy, slow convergence...)

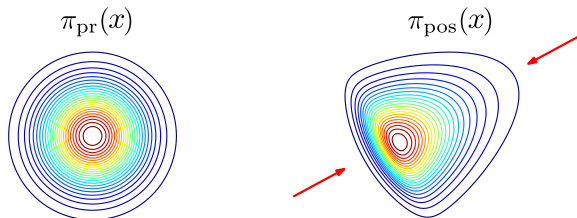
Low-effective dimension of Bayesian inverse problems

In many situations, the data are informative only on a **low-dimensional subspace**



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The likelihood informed components

$$X = \underbrace{U_m X_m}_{\text{informed}} + \underbrace{U_{\perp} X_{\perp}}_{\text{uninformed}}$$

Find a projection matrix $U_m \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$ (**feature map**) and a reduced likelihood $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ (**profile function**) such that

$$\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x|y) \propto \tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y(U_m^{\top} x) \pi_X(x)$$

yields a “good” posterior approximation to $\pi_{X|Y}(x|y) \propto \mathcal{L}^y(x) \pi_X(x)$

Subspace accelerated inference

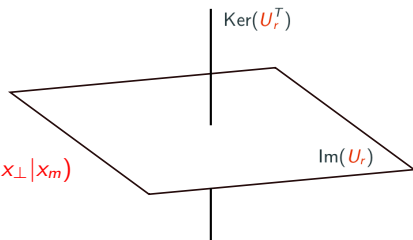
- [Vrugt 2009] Accelerating MCMC [...] with randomized **subspace sampling**, INT J NONLIN SCI NUM
- [Marzouk Najm 2009] Dimensionality reduction and PC acceleration of Bayesian inference, JCP
- [Cui Law Marzouk 2016] Dimension-independent **likelihood-informed** MCMC, JCP
- [Constantine et.al. 2016] Accelerating MCMC with **active subspaces**, SIAM-SISC
- [Izmailov et.al. 2020] **Subspace inference** for Bayesian deep learning, PMLR
- [Chen Ghattas 2020] **Projected** Stein variational gradient descent, NeurIPS
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$$X = \underbrace{U_m X_m}_{\in \text{Im}(U_m)} + \underbrace{U_{\perp} X_{\perp}}_{\in \text{Ker}(U_m^T)}$$

Then

$$\tilde{\pi}_{X|y_{\text{obs}}}(x) = \underbrace{\left(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(x_m) \pi_{X_m}(x_m) \right)}_{\tilde{\pi}_{X_m|y_{\text{obs}}}(x_m)} \pi_{X_{\perp}|x_m}(x_{\perp}|x_m)$$

Concentrate the numerical effort on X_m



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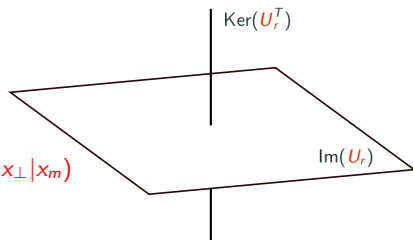
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- Maximum a posteriori $\max_x \pi_{X|Y}(x|y)$ over $x \in \text{Im}(U_m) + U_{\perp} x_{\perp}^0$



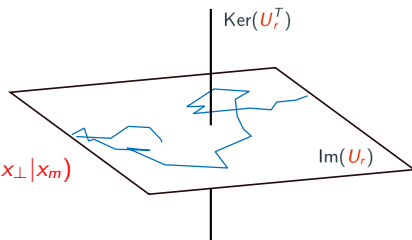
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Concentrate the numerical effort on X_m

- ▶ Maximum a posteriori $\max_x \pi_{X|Y}(x|y)$ over $x \in \text{Im}(U_m) + U_{\perp} x_{\perp}^0$
- ▶ MCMC to sample from $\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}$
 1. **Subspace MCMC** to get samples $x_m^{(i)} \sim \tilde{\pi}_{X_m|y_{\text{obs}}}(x_m)$

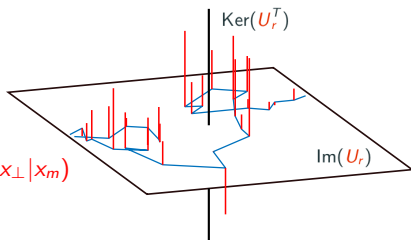
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Concentrate the numerical effort on X_m

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 2. Draw samples from the **conditional prior** $x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \pi_{X_{\perp}|x_m}(x_{\perp}|x_m^{(i)})$
 3. Assemble $x^{(i)} = U_m x_m^{(i)} + U_{\perp} x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x)$

Certified dimension reduction

Gaussian Linear problems: a well understood case

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{\text{pr}}, \Sigma_{\text{pr}})$$

$$Y = \underbrace{u(X)}_{AX} + \varepsilon,$$

where $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_{\text{obs}})$. Then

$$(X|Y=y) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{\text{pos}}(y), \Sigma_{\text{pos}})$$

with $\mu_{\text{pos}}(y) = (\text{blablabla})$ and

$$\Sigma_{\text{pos}}^{-1} = \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} + \underbrace{A^{\top} \Sigma_{\text{obs}}^{-1} A}_H$$

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$$\Sigma_{\text{pos}}^{-1} \stackrel{(*)}{=} \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} + \underbrace{A^{\top} \Sigma_{\text{obs}}^{-1} A}_H$$

The prior-to-posterior **covariance contraction** is captured by H , and the most informed direction are given by

$$\min_{v \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{v^{\top} \Sigma_{\text{pos}} v}{v^{\top} \Sigma_{\text{pr}} v} \stackrel{(*)}{\Leftrightarrow} \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{v^{\top} H v}{v^{\top} \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} v}$$


-  [Flath et.al. 2011] Fast algorithms for Bayesian UQ in large-scale linear inverse problems [...], SIAM-SISC
-  [Bui-Thanh et.al. 2012] Extreme-scale UQ for bayesian inverse problems governed by pdes, IEEE
-  [Spantini et.al. 2015] Optimal low-rank approximations of Bayesian linear inverse problems, SIAM-SISC
-  [Poletto 2025] Contributions to reduced basis methods for nonparametric Bayesian inference in geosciences, PhD
-  [.....]

Generalization to **nonlinear** & **nonGaussian** problems

$$\arg \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{v^\top H v}{v^\top \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} v} \quad \text{where } H = ???$$

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-  [Cui et.al. 2016]: Replace A with $\nabla u(X)$ and take posterior expectation

$$H(\mathbf{y}) = \int \nabla u(x) \Sigma_{\text{obs}}^{-1} \nabla u(x)^\top d\pi_{X|\mathbf{y}}(x|\mathbf{y})$$

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-  [Constantine et.al. 2016]: apply Active Subspace on $\log \mathcal{L}^{\mathbf{y}}$ w.r.t. prior

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-  [Zahm et.al. 2022]: Use the **Fisher Information** matrix \Rightarrow “certified” DR

$$H(y) = \int (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y(x)) (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y(x))^\top d\pi_{X|Y}(x|y)$$

Control the **Kullback-Leibler (KL)** [Zahm et al, 2022]

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|y}) = \int \log \left(\frac{\pi_{X|y}}{\tilde{\pi}_{X|y}} \right) d\pi_{X|y}, \quad \begin{cases} \pi_{X|y} \propto \mathcal{L}^y(x) \pi_X(x) \\ \tilde{\pi}_{X|y} \propto \tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y(U_m^\top x) \pi_X(x) \end{cases}$$

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- For any U_m , the KL-optimal profile is the **conditional expectation**

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y(x_m) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_X}[\mathcal{L}^y(X) | U_m^\top X = x_m]$$

and yields (exact marginal posterior)

$$\tilde{\pi}_{X_m|Y}(x_m|y) = \pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m|y)$$

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- **Subspace LSI:** for any U_m , it holds

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq \frac{\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_X)}{2} \left(\mathbb{E}_{\pi_{X|Y}}[\|\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^Y\|^2] - \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{X|Y}}[\|U_m^\top \nabla \log \mathcal{L}^Y\|^2] \right)$$

where $\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_X)$ is now the **subspace Logarithmic Sobolev constant**¹.

¹Log-Sob inequality: $\mathbb{E}[u(X)^2 \log(u(X))] \leq \mathbb{C}(\pi_X) \mathbb{E}[\|u(X)\|^2]$ for all $u \geq 0$ s.t. $\mathbb{E}[u(X)] = 1$

Minimizing the RHS: PCA on $\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y(X)$ with $X \sim \pi_{X|y}$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|y}) \leq \frac{\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_X)}{2} \left(\mathbb{E}_{\pi_{X|y}} [\|\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y\|^2] - \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{X|y}} [\|U_m^\top \nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y\|^2] \right)$$

1. Compute the diagnostic matrix

$$H(y) = \int (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y) (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)^\top d\pi_{X|y}$$

2. Solve the eigenvalue problem $H(y)v_i = \lambda_i v_i$ with $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq 0$ and assemble

$$U_m = [v_1, \dots, v_m]$$

$$U_\perp = [v_{m+1}, \dots, v_d]$$

3. Finally we obtain

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|y}) \leq \frac{\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_X)}{2} \sum_{i=m+1}^d \lambda_i$$

How to control $\overline{C}(\pi_X)$?

- ▶ **Bakry–Émery** theorem for log-concave π_X

$$\text{Hess}(-\log \pi_X(x)) \succeq \rho I_d \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{C}(\pi_X) \leq 1/\rho$$

- ▶ **Holley–Stroock** perturbation lemma

$$\alpha \rho_X(x) \leq \pi_X(x) \leq \beta \rho_X(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{C}(\pi_X) \leq \frac{\beta}{\alpha} C(\rho_X)$$

- ▶ Combination of the two above.

$\{\text{these assumptions}\} \Rightarrow \{(\text{subspace})\text{LogSob}\} \Rightarrow \{(\text{subspace})\text{Poincaré}\}$

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The **ideal setting** remains $\pi_X = \mathcal{N}(0, I_d)$. As for the (subspace)Poincaré inequality, it is preferable to **whiten** the prior

$$\overline{X} = \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1/2}(X - \mu_{\text{pr}})$$

This is equivalent to computing the **generalized** eigenvalue problem


$H(y)v_i = \lambda_i \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} v_i$

Other functional inequalities bound other divergences

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|y}) \leq \underbrace{\frac{\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_{\overline{X}})}{2} \left(\mathbb{E}_{\pi_{X|y}} [\|\Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{1/2} \nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y\|^2] - \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{X|y}} [\|U_m^\top \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{1/2} \nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y\|^2] \right)}_{= (RHS)}$$


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- (subspace)**Poincaré inequality** bounds **Hellinger distance**  [Cui Tong 2022]


$$D_{\text{Hell}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq 2(RHS)$$

Usefull e.g. for Laplace priors $\pi_X(x) = \prod_{i=1}^d \exp(-\lambda|x_i|)$ which do not satisfy the (subspace)LSI...

 [Flock et.al. 2024] Certified coordinate selection for BIP with **Laplace prior**, Inverse Problems


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- (subspace) **Φ -Sobolev inequality** bounds the **α -divergence**


$$D_{\alpha}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq \mathcal{J}_{\alpha} (RHS)$$

This interpolates KL ($\alpha = 1$), Hellinger ($\alpha = 1/2$) and χ^2 ($\alpha = 2$)...

 [Li Marzouk Zahm 2024] Principal feature detection via **Φ -Sobolev inequalities**, Bernoulli.


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$$D_{\text{Hell}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq 2(RHS)$$


Usefull e.g. for Laplace priors $\pi_X(x) = \prod_{i=1}^d \exp(-\lambda|x_i|)$ which do not satisfy the (subspace)LSI...

 [Flock et.al. 2024] Certified coordinate selection for BIP with **Laplace prior**, Inverse Problems

- ▶ (subspace) **Φ -Sobolev inequality** bounds the **α -divergence**


$$D_{\alpha}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq \mathcal{J}_{\alpha} (RHS)$$

This interpolates KL ($\alpha = 1$), Hellinger ($\alpha = 1/2$) and χ^2 ($\alpha = 2$)...

 [Li Marzouk Zahm 2024] Principal feature detection via **Φ -Sobolev inequalities**, Bernoulli.

- ▶ **Dimensional Logarithmic Sobolev inequality** improves the above bound

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq \text{“} \log(1 + (RHS)) \text{”}$$

 [Li Cui Li Marzouk Zahm 2024] Sharp detection of LDS via **dimensional logSob inequalities**, arXiv.

In practice...

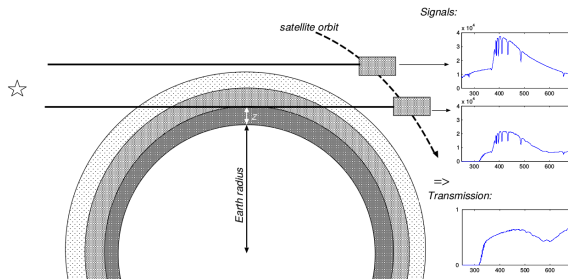
Benchmark Gomos: atmospheric remote sensing

►  [Haario Tamminen et al. 2004]

► Estimate gas densities $x = \rho^{\text{gas}}(z)$ from transmission spectra $y_{\omega}(z)$

► Beer's law:

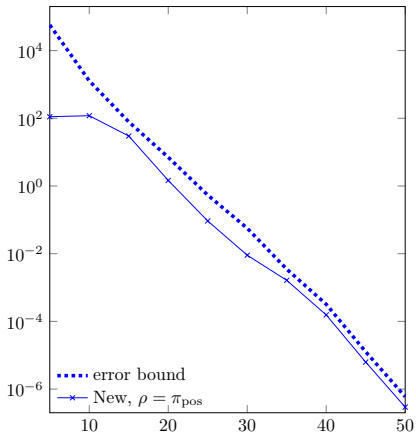
$$y_{\omega}(z) = \exp \left(- \int_{\text{light path}} \sum_{\text{gas}} \alpha_{\omega}^{\text{gas}}(z(\zeta)) \rho^{\text{gas}}(z(\zeta)) d\zeta \right) + \xi$$



► Gaussian prior $\mathcal{N}(\mu_{\text{pr}}, \Sigma_{\text{pr}})$ with squared exponential kernel covariance

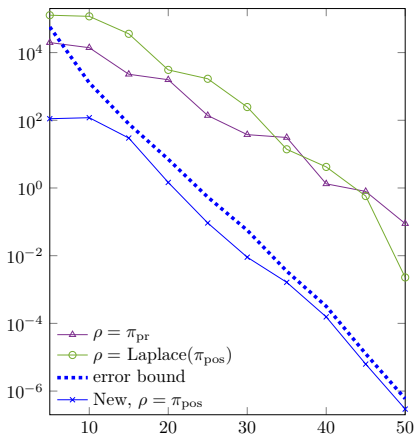
► After discretization of the atmosphere, $\dim(x) = 200$.

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) = \text{function}(r)$$



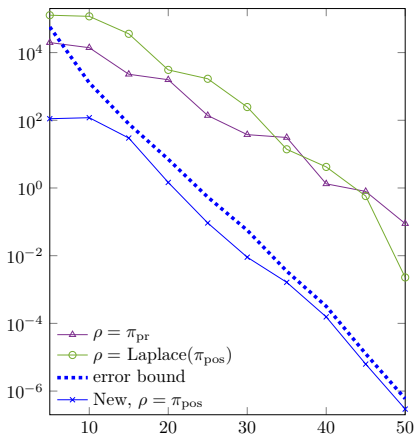
$$H(y) = \int (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)(\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)^\top d\pi_{X|Y}$$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) = \text{function}(r)$$



$$H^{(\rho)}(y) = \int (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)(\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)^\top d\rho$$

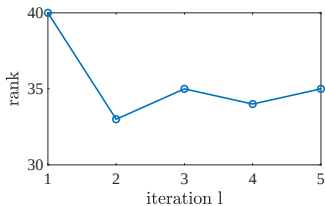
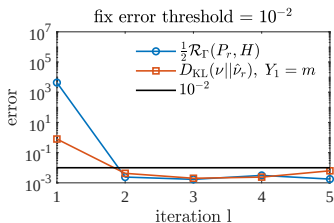
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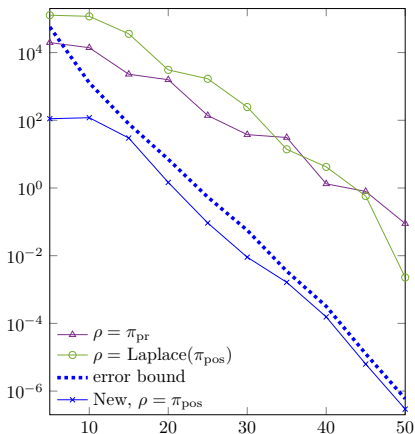
$$H^{(\rho)}(y) = \int (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)(\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)^\top d\rho$$

Iterative procedure:

$$\pi_X \rightarrow H^{(\pi_X)} \rightarrow \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y} \rightarrow H^{(\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y})} \rightarrow \dots$$



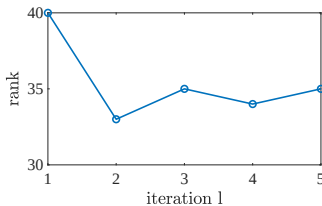
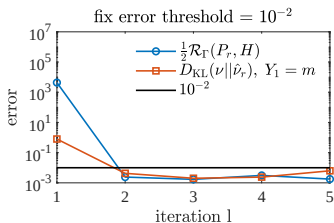
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Iterative procedure:

$$\pi_X \rightarrow H^{(\pi_X)} \rightarrow \tilde{\pi}_{X|y} \rightarrow H^{(\tilde{\pi}_{X|y})} \rightarrow \dots$$



We have to re-run the whole procedure for every new piece of observed data y ...

Data-free dimension reduction $U_m = \cancel{u_m(y)}$

Problem statement

Recall that, in the Bayesian perspective, the observed data y is a **realization** of a random variable

$$Y \sim \pi_{\text{data}}$$

Objective

Find a $U_m = \cancel{U_m(Y)}$ such that

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \leq \text{tol} \quad (1)$$

in high probability (w.r.t. Y).

By Markov inequality,

$$\mathbb{E}_Y \left[D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \right] \leq \varepsilon$$

is sufficient to ensure (1) with probability greater than $1 - \varepsilon/\text{tol}$.

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Remark: this corresponds to controlling the **Conditional Mutual Information**

$$\text{CMI}(Y, X_{\perp} | X_r) \leq \varepsilon$$

Online / Offline procedure

Offline

1. Compute

$$H = \mathbb{E}(H(\mathbf{Y})), \quad \mathbf{Y} \sim \pi_{\mathbf{Y}}$$

2. Solve the generalized eigenvalue problem $H\mathbf{u}_i = \lambda_i \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} \mathbf{u}_i$ and let

$$\mathbf{U}_m = [\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$$

Online

3. Receive a realization \mathbf{y} of \mathbf{Y} ,
4. Compute the optimal function $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}^{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}_m) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\mathbf{X}}}(\mathcal{L}^{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{X}) | \mathbf{U}_m^{\top} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}_m)$
5. Assemble the posterior approximation $\tilde{\pi}_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}) \propto \tilde{\mathcal{L}}^{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{U}_m^{\top} \mathbf{x}) \pi_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$

Proposition  [Cui et.al. 2021]

Assume $\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_{\mathbf{X}}) < \infty$. The above procedure yields

$$\mathbb{E} \left[D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Y}} || \tilde{\pi}_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Y}}) \right] \leq \frac{\overline{\mathbb{C}}(\pi_{\mathbf{X}})}{2} \sum_{i=m+1}^d \lambda_i$$

Online / Offline procedure

Offline

1. Compute

$$H = \mathbb{E}(H(Y)), \quad Y \sim \pi_Y$$

2. Solve the generalized eigenvalue problem $Hu_i = \lambda_i \Sigma_{\text{pr}}^{-1} u_i$ and let

$$U_m = [u_1, \dots, u_m] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$$

Online

3. Receive a realization y of Y ,


4. Compute the optimal function $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y(x_m) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_X}(\mathcal{L}^y(X) | U_m^\top X = x_m)$

5. Assemble the posterior approximation $\tilde{\pi}_{X|y}(x) \propto \tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y(U_m^\top x) \pi_X(x)$

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If **Gaussian prior**, “dimensional log-Sob” improvement  [Li et.al. 2024]

$$\mathbb{E} \left[D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}) \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=m+1}^d \log(1 + \lambda_i)$$

How to compute $H = \mathbb{E}[H(\textcolor{red}{Y})]$?

Proposition

$$H = \int \mathcal{I}(x) d\pi_X(x)$$

where $\mathcal{I}(x)$ is the **Fisher information matrix** of the likelihood $\mathcal{L}^y(x) \propto \pi(y|x)$ defined by

$$\mathcal{I}(x) = \int \nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y(x) \nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y(x)^T \pi(y|x) dy$$

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- **Gaussian likelihood:** $\mathcal{L}^y(x) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \|u(x) - y\|_{\Sigma_{\text{obs}}^{-1}}^2)$

$$H = \int \nabla u(x)^T \Sigma_{\text{obs}}^{-1} \nabla u(x) d\pi_X(x)$$

This corresponds to the **Active Subspace** on the forward model u !

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- ▶ **Poisson likelihood:** $\mathcal{L}^y(x) = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{G_i(x)^{y_i} \exp(-G_i(x))}{y_i!}$

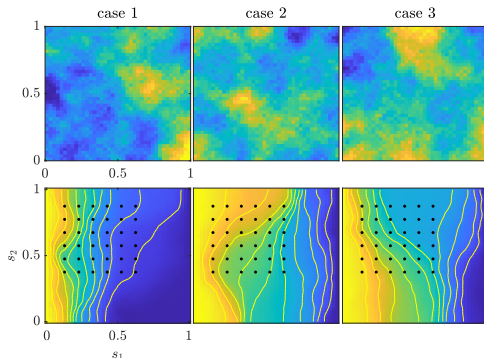
$$H = \int \nabla u(x)^T \text{diag}(u_1(x), \dots, u_m(x))^{-1} \nabla u(x)^T d\pi_X(x)$$

- ▶ ...

A numerical example: elliptic PDE

$$-\nabla \cdot (\kappa(s) \nabla p(s)) = f(s), \quad s \in [0, 1]^2$$

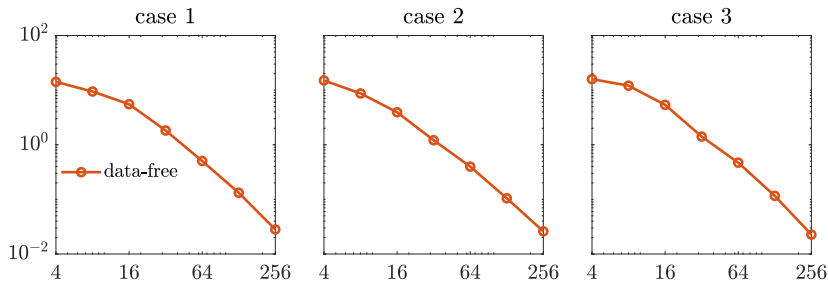
- ▶ Parameter: $x = \log \kappa$
- ▶ Data: $y = (p(s_1), \dots, p(s_m)) + \mathcal{N}(0, \Gamma_{\text{obs}})$ (Gaussian likelihood)
- ▶ Gaussian prior: $-\Delta x + \gamma x = \mathcal{W}$ with $\mathcal{W} = \text{white noise}$ and $\gamma = 10$



Elliptic PDE: results for three different observations

$Y^{(1)}, Y^{(2)}, Y^{(3)}$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y^{(i)}} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y^{(i)}}) = \text{function}(m)$$

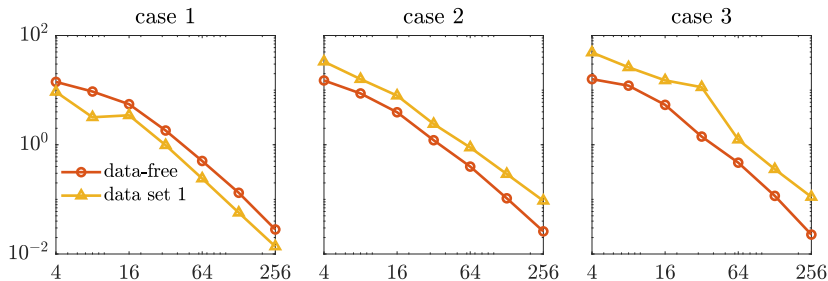


► data-free: U_m computed via $H = \mathbb{E}(H(Y))$

Elliptic PDE: results for three different observations

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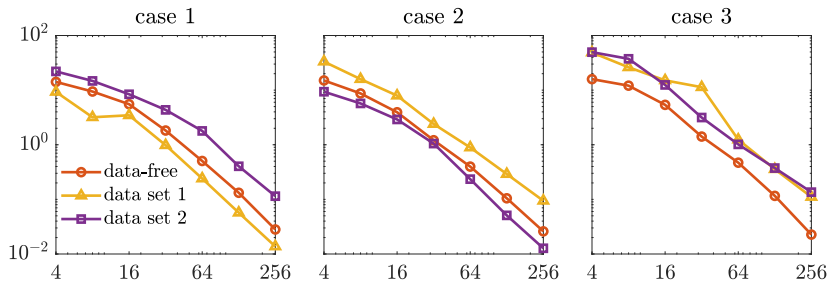
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- ▶ **data-free:** U_m computed via $H = \mathbb{E}(H(Y))$
- ▶ **data set 1:** U_m computed via $H(Y^{(1)})$

Elliptic PDE: results for three different observations $Y^{(1)}, Y^{(2)}, Y^{(3)}$

$$D_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y^{(i)}} || \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y^{(i)}}) = \text{function}(m)$$

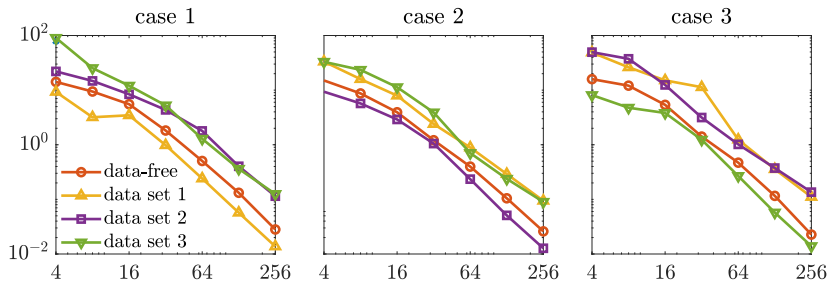


- ▶ data-free: U_m computed via $H = \mathbb{E}(H(Y))$
- ▶ data set 1: U_m computed via $H(Y^{(1)})$
- ▶ data set 2: U_m computed via $H(Y^{(2)})$

Elliptic PDE: results for three different observations

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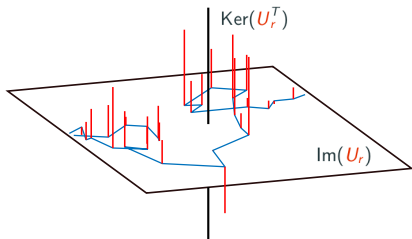


- ▶ **data-free:** U_m computed via $H = \mathbb{E}(H(Y))$
- ▶ **data set 1:** U_m computed via $H(Y^{(1)})$
- ▶ **data set 2:** U_m computed via $H(Y^{(2)})$
- ▶ **data set 3:** U_m computed via $H(Y^{(3)})$

Sample from the approximate posterior

$$\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x) = \pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m) \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m)$$

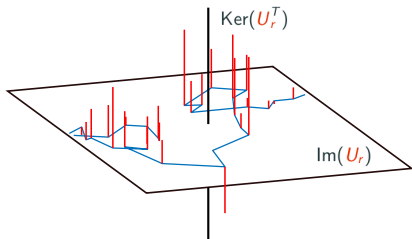
1. Marginal posterior $x_m^{(i)} \sim \pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m)$
2. Conditional prior $x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m^{(i)})$
3. Assemble $U_m x_m^{(i)} + U_{\perp} x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x)$



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Pseudo-Marginal MCMC  [Andrieu, Roberts 2009] to sample $\pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m)$

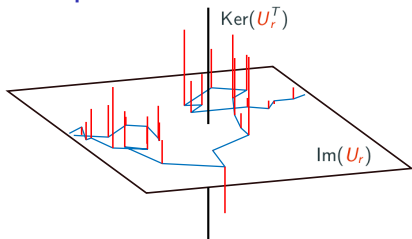
$$\pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m) = \int \frac{\pi_{X|Y}(x_m + \tilde{x}_{\perp})}{\pi_X(\tilde{x}_{\perp}|x_m)} \pi_X(\tilde{x}_{\perp}|x_m) d\tilde{x}_{\perp} \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\pi_{X|Y}(x_m + \tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(i)})}{\pi_X(\tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(i)}|x_m)}$$

- **Low-variance** estimator by construction of U_m (N can be small)
- Pseudo-Marginal trick: redraw $\tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m)$ **at every iteration**.

Sample from the approximate **exact** posterior

$$\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x) = \pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m) \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m)$$

1. Marginal posterior $x_m^{(i)} \sim \pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m)$
2. ~~Conditional prior~~ $x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m^{(i)})$
3. Assemble $U_m x_m^{(i)} + U_{\perp} x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x)$



Pseudo-Marginal MCMC  [Andrieu, Roberts 2009] to sample $\pi_{X_m|Y}(x_m)$

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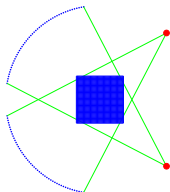
- **Low-variance** estimator by construction of U_m (N can be small)
- Pseudo-Marginal trick: redraw $\tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m)$ **at every iteration**.

Recycle $\tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(i)}$ to sample the **exact full posterior** $\pi_{X|Y}(x)$  [Cui Zahm 2021]

Instead of drawing $x_{\perp}^{(i)} \sim \pi_X(x_{\perp}|x_m^{(i)})$, pick $x_{\perp}^{(i)} \in \{\tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(1)}, \dots, \tilde{x}_{\perp}^{(N)}\}$ at random.

A numerical example: X-ray tomography with Poisson data

Identify the density of a material in a domain of interest (**blue square**) using two X-ray sources (**red points**) and $m = 100$ sensors (**blue points**)



- Data: $Y \in \mathbb{N}^m$ integer-valued vector (number of incident photons)
- **Poisson likelihood** of the form

$$\mathcal{L}^Y(x) = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{G_i(x)^{y_i} \exp(-G_i(x))}{y_i!}$$

where the forward model $G(x)$ stems from Beer's law.

- **Laplace prior**

$$\pi_X(x) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{d=64^2} \exp(-\lambda |x_i|)$$

- We use **coordinate selection** to reduce the dimension.

MCMC using H-MALA² as a baseline to sample the exact posterior

We use **Integrated Auto Correlation Time (IACT)** to measure the mixing performances of the MCMC.

		IACT	$\sqrt{\text{var}}[\log \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_N^y]$
$N=2$	$r = 16$	85.1 ± 2.7	1.54 ± 0.02
	$r = 32$	54.1 ± 3.1	$0.61 \pm .007$
	$r = 48$	49.4 ± 2.6	$0.45 \pm .002$
$N=5$	$r = 16$	60.0 ± 6.2	$0.93 \pm .006$
	$r = 32$	47.6 ± 2.5	$0.39 \pm .004$
	$r = 48$	46.5 ± 1.4	$0.29 \pm .001$

IACT of the full-dimensional H-MALA: 95.9 ± 3.3

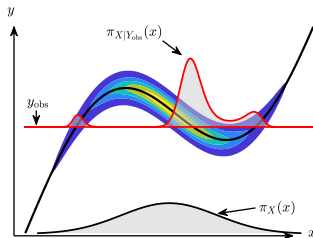
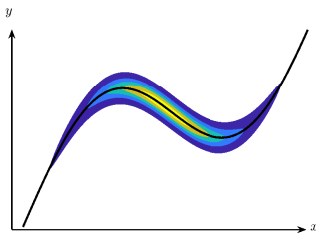
²Hessian-preconditioned Metropolis-Adjusted Langevin Algorithm


Joint density estimation for fast Bayesian inversion

Objective

Build an approximation of the **joint density** $\tilde{\pi}_{XY} \approx \pi_{XY}$ which **allows fast conditioning** on $Y = y_{\text{obs}}$

$$\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y_{\text{obs}}}(x) \propto \tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y_{\text{obs}})$$



 [Cui, Dolgov, Zahm 2023] Scalable conditional deep inverse Rosenblatt transports using tensor-trains and **gradient-based dimension reduction**, JCP

Approximation of π_{XY} using **low-rank tensor formats**

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto g^Y(y)g^X(x)$$

Approximation of π_{XY} using **low-rank tensor formats**

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto \sum_{i=1}^r g_i^Y(y) g_i^X(x)$$

Approximation of π_{XY} using **low-rank tensor formats**

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto \left(\sum_{i=1}^r g_i^Y(y) g_i^X(x) \right)^2 \geq 0$$

Approximation of π_{XY} using **low-rank tensor formats**

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto \left(\sum_{i=1}^r g_i^Y(y) g_i^X(x) \right)^2 \geq 0$$

Generalization to higher dimensions $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$ and $y = (y_1, \dots, y_p)$:

- The **canonical** tensor format

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto \left(\sum_{i=1}^r g_i^{Y_p}(y_p) \dots g_i^{Y_1}(y_1) g_i^{X_1}(x_1) \dots g_i^{X_d}(x_d) \right)^2$$


Approximation of π_{XY} using **low-rank tensor formats**

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto \left(\sum_{i=1}^r g_i^Y(y) g_i^X(x) \right)^2 \geq 0$$

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- The **tensor train (TT)** format  [\[Oseledets2011\]](#)

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) \propto \left(\sum_{\substack{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{d-1}=1 \\ \textcolor{red}{r_1}, \textcolor{red}{r_2}, \dots, \textcolor{red}{r_{d-1}}}} g_{\textcolor{red}{i_1}}^{Y_p}(y_p) g_{\textcolor{red}{i_1}, \textcolor{blue}{i_2}}^{Y_{p-1}}(y_{p-1}) \dots g_{i_{d-2}, \textcolor{red}{i_{d-1}}}^{X_{d-1}}(x_{d-1}) g_{\textcolor{red}{i_{d-1}}}^{X_d}(x_d) \right)^2$$

where the g 's are **matrix valued functions**. Better approximation properties compared to the canonical format, but it is **sensitive to variable ordering**.

Tensor Train approximation

The **Hellinger distance** satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\text{Hell}}(\pi_{XY}, \tilde{\pi}_{XY})^2 &:= \frac{1}{2} \int (\sqrt{\pi_{XY}} - \sqrt{\tilde{\pi}_{XY}})^2 dxy \\ &\leq 2 \int \left(\sqrt{\pi_{XY}} - \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_{d-1}=1}^{r_1, \dots, r_{d-1}} g_{i_1}^{Y_m} g_{i_1, i_2}^{Y_{m-1}} \dots g_{i_{d-2}, i_{d-1}}^{X_{d-1}} g_{i_{d-1}}^{X_d} \right)^2 dxy \end{aligned}$$

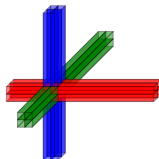
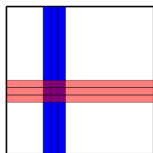
Minimizing the RHS requires solving a standard **least-square problem** to approximate $\sqrt{\pi_{XY}}$.

Tensor Train approximation

- Construct the g 's using **adaptive cross approximation** algorithms



[Dolgov et al, 2014]. This requires evaluating *fibers* of π_{XY} :



- The ranks $r = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{d-1})$ can be **automatically adapted** to reach a prescribed tolerance ε
- Complexity of $\mathcal{O}((d+p)r_{\max}^2)$ memory and $\mathcal{O}((d+p)r_{\max}^3)$ flops: **linear in the dimension**, but **cubic in the ranks**.
- The efficiency of tensor trains (i.e. how large is $r = r(\varepsilon)$) is sensitive to the **order of the variables**.

Parameter & data **rotation**: $X \leftarrow U^\top X$ and $Y \leftarrow V^\top Y$

$$X = \underbrace{U_m X_m}_{\text{informed}} + U_\perp X_\perp \quad Y = \underbrace{V_s Y_s}_{\text{informative}} + V_\perp Y_\perp$$

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► **Idea:** approximate $\pi_{XY}(x, y) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|u(x) - y\|^2\right) \pi_X(x)$ with

$$\tilde{\pi}_{XY}(x, y) = \underbrace{\pi_{Y_\perp | Y_s X}(y_\perp | y_s, x_0)}_{\text{conditional likelihood}} \underbrace{\pi_{X_m Y_s}(x_m, y_s)}_{\text{marginal joint}} \underbrace{\pi_{X_\perp | X_m}(x_\perp | x_m)}_{\text{conditional prior}}$$

Applying the **subspace Poincaré inequalities**, we get

$$D_{\text{Hell}}(\pi_{XY} || \tilde{\pi}_{XY}) \leq \overline{C}(\pi_X) \left(\mathbb{E}_{\pi_X} [\|U_\perp^\top \nabla u(X)^\top\|_F^2] + \mathbb{E}_{\pi_X} [\|V_\perp^\top (u(X) - u(x_0))\|^2] \right)$$

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- **Minimizing the bound** yields U, V containing the first eigenvectors of

$$H_X = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_X} \left[\nabla u(X)^\top \nabla u(X) \right] \quad (\text{active subspace})$$

$$H_Y = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_X} \left[u(X) u(X)^\top \right] + \text{rank-1} \quad (\text{PCA on } u(X))$$

- We propose to **rotate** the parameter & data as follow

$$X \leftarrow U^\top X \quad Y \leftarrow V^\top Y$$

Illustration: elliptic PDE with Besov prior

$$-\operatorname{div}(\kappa \nabla u) = f \quad \text{on } \Omega = [0, 1]^2$$

Parameter: $\log \kappa = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \psi_i$ with Besov prior ($d = 22$)

$$\begin{cases} (\psi_1, \dots, \psi_d) : \text{wavelet basis} \\ x \sim \pi_X(x) \propto \exp(-\gamma \|x\|_1) \end{cases}$$

Data: noisy observations ($m = 16$)

$$y = u(16 \text{ black points}) + \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_{\text{obs}})$$

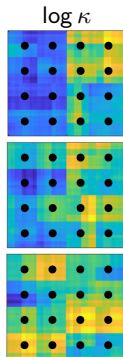


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Tensor Train approximation of π_{XY} using adaptive rank (fixed precision)

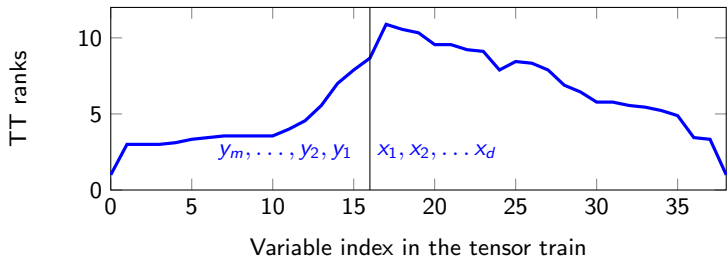
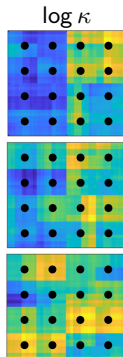


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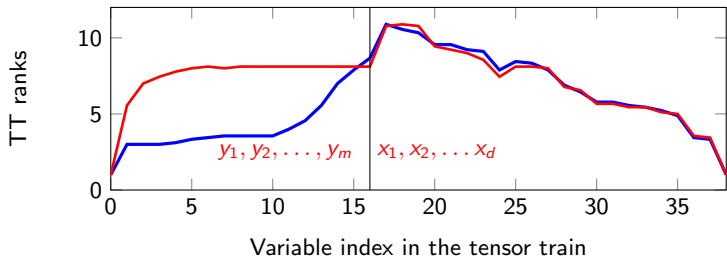
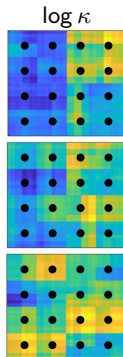


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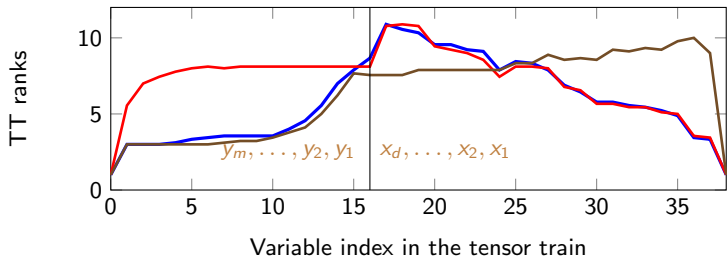
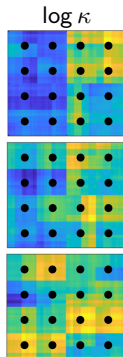
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Conclusion

Certified likelihood-informed subspace







$$\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y}(x|y) \propto \tilde{\mathcal{L}}^y(U_m^\top x) \pi_X(x)$$

Gradient-based methods: (1) use functional inequalities to bound the error $\tilde{\pi}_{X|Y} \approx \pi_{X|Y}$ and (2) minimize that bound over U_m using the diagnostic matrix

$$H(y) = \int (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y) (\nabla \log \mathcal{L}^y)^\top d\pi_{X|y}$$

Many extensions:

- ▶ **Data-Free:** reduce X before observing the data
- ▶ **Parameter & Data reduction:** informed parameter & informative data
- ▶ **“Heavy” tail (Laplace) priors:** can we still use Log-Sob/Poincaré?
- ▶ **Rare event estimation:** nonsmooth likelihood: $\pi_X^\alpha(x) \propto 1_{u(x) \geq \alpha} \pi_X(x)$

-  [Zahm et.al. 2022] Certified dimension reduction in nonlinear Bayesian inverse problems, Math.Comp.
-  [Cui Zahm 2021] Data-Free Likelihood-Informed DR of Bayesian Inverse Problems, Inverse Problems.
-  [Cui Tong 2022] A unified performance analysis of likelihood informed subspace methods, Bernoulli.
-  [Li Marzouk Zahm 2024] Principal feature detection via Φ -Sobolev inequalities, Bernoulli.
-  [Li Cui Li Marzouk Zahm 2024] Sharp detection of LDS via dimensional logSob inequalities, IMA-II.
-  [Flock et.al. 2024] Certified coordinate selection for BIP with Laplace prior, Inverse Problems

If you didn't get enough today...

- ▶ Extention to **Conditional Mutual Independence (CMI)** to detect independence between X and Y given Z

$$\text{CMI}(X, Y|Z) \leq \overline{C}(\pi_{XYZ})^2 \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla_X \nabla_Y \log \pi_{XYZ}(XYZ)\|_F^2]$$



[Baptista et.al. 2022] Gradient-based data and parameter dimension reduction, arXiv

[Baptista et.al. 2024] Learning Non-Gaussian Graphical Models [...], JMLR

- ▶ Bound the **Expectation Information Gain (EIG)** for goal-oriented sensor placement

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EIG}(Y_\tau | X_r) &= \mathbb{E}_Y[\text{D}_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X_r|Y_\tau} || \pi_{X_r})] \\ &\geq \mathbb{E}_Y[\text{D}_{\text{KL}}(\pi_{X|Y} || \pi_X)] - \overline{C}(\pi_X) \mathbb{E}[\|V_\tau^\top \nabla u(X) U_r\|_F^2] \end{aligned}$$



[Chen et.al. 2025] Coupled **input-output** dimension reduction [...], SIAM-SISC

Questions?