

High-dimensional approximation methods Prof. Dr. H. Harbrecht

#### FS 2025

# Project.

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## Problem formulation

In this project, we consider the Poisson problem in the random domain. To this end, let  $D_r \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be a bounded and simply connected domain with boundary Lipschitz boundary  $\partial D_r$ , which we call the *reference domain*. We consider a complete probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  with separable set  $\Omega$ ,  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F} \subset 2^{\Omega}$ , and probability measure  $\mathbb{P}$ . We then define  $\mathbf{V} : \overline{D_r} \times \Omega \to \mathbb{R}^2$  as a random vector field such that  $\mathbf{V}(\cdot, \omega) \in C^1(D_r; \mathbb{R}^2)$ . The *random domain* is the image of the reference domain under the random domain mapping  $\mathbf{V}$ , i.e.,

$$D(\omega) = \mathbf{V}(D_r, \omega)$$
 and  $\partial D(\omega) = \mathbf{V}(\partial D_r, \omega)$ .

We also define the respective hold-all as

$$\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{\omega \in \Omega} D(\omega).$$

Thus, the Poisson problem in the random domain  $D(\omega)$  reads as: for given  $\mathbf{V} \in C^1(D_r; \mathbb{R}^2)^2$ and  $f \in L^2(\mathcal{D})$ , find  $u(\omega) \in H^1_0(D(\omega))$  satisfying

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u(\mathbf{x},\omega) = f(\mathbf{x}) & \text{for } \mathbf{x} \in D(\omega), \\ u(\mathbf{x},\omega) = 0 & \text{for } \mathbf{x} \in \partial D(\omega). \end{cases}$$
(1)

### Modelling

We model the random domain mapping by means of the Karhunen-Loève expansion, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x},\omega) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{V}](\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_k} \mathbf{\phi}_k(\mathbf{x}) Y_k(\omega), \qquad (2)$$

where  $\{(\lambda_k, \mathbf{\phi}_k)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  are eigenpairs of the *covariance operator* 

$$C_{\mathbf{V}}\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle(\mathbf{x}) := \int_{D_r} \operatorname{Cov}[\mathbf{V}](\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}') \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{x}$$

Here, the two-point covariance defined as

$$\operatorname{Cov}[\mathbf{V}](\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') \coloneqq \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x},\cdot) - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{V}](\mathbf{x})\right) \otimes \left(\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x}',\cdot) - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{V}](\mathbf{x}')\right)\right].$$

For the discretization we assume that the random variables  $\{Y_k\}_{k\in\mathbb{N}}$  are independent and uniformly distributed in  $[-\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{3}]$ , the sequence  $\{\|\sqrt{3\lambda_k}\mathbf{\varphi}\|_{W^{1,\infty}(D_r;\mathbb{R}^2)}\}_{k\in\mathbb{N}}$  is at least in  $\ell^1(\mathbb{N})$ , and that the mean satisfies  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{V}] = \mathbf{x}$ . These model assumptions allow for truncation of Karhunen-Loève expansion for some  $0 < M < \infty$  and after parametrization we obtain

$$\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x},\omega) \longrightarrow \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} + \sum_{k=1}^{M} \sqrt{3\lambda_k} \mathbf{\phi}_k(\mathbf{x}) y_k, \quad \mathbf{y} = (y_1,\ldots,y_M) \in \Box := [-1,1]^M.$$



Figure 1: The square as reference domain with one sample of the shifted random map  $V(x, y^*) - x$  and the associated random domain.

Using this parametrization, we can rewrite the problem (1) in the random domain by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) & \text{for } \mathbf{x} \in D(\mathbf{y}), \\ u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = 0 & \text{for } \mathbf{x} \in \partial D(\mathbf{y}), \end{cases}$$
(3)

where  $D(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{V}(D_r, \mathbf{y})$  and  $\partial D(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{V}(\partial D_r, \mathbf{y})$ , compare Figure 1 for an illustration.

**Exercise 1**. Compute the random domain-mapping (2) by using the pivoted Cholesky decomposition. This needs an update of the pivoted Cholesky decomposition for the vector case. Implement the function

[Phi1, Phi2, D] = random\_dom\_map(kf, mesh\_ref, tol),

where  $Phi_i = [\phi_{i,k}]_{k=1,...,m}$ , i = 1, 2, are matrices with the eigenfunctions and D is a matrix with the eigenvalues. The inputs are kf, which is a discretization of the matrix covariance function

$$\operatorname{Cov}[\mathbf{V}](\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \frac{1}{100} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \exp(-4\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_{2}^{2}) & \exp(-0.1\|2\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_{2}^{2}) \\ \exp(-0.1\|\mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{x}'\|_{2}^{2}) & 5 \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_{2}^{2}) \end{bmatrix},$$
(4)

mesh\_ref is the mesh of the reference domain generated by mesh\_ref=mesh\_generation(),
and tol is the desired tolerance for the pivoted Cholesky decomposition.



Figure 2: Solution  $u_r(\mathbf{x})$  on the reference domain and solution  $u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^*)$  on the random domain.

**Exercise 2.** Given the reference domain  $D_r$  as mesh\_ref, a sample of the random domain  $D(\mathbf{y}^*)$  corresponds to a mesh mesh\_rand by just mapping the vertices using the approximate Karhunen-Loève expansion. Solve the Poisson problem by

uh\_rand = solve\_poisson\_problem(ff, mesh\_rand)

with

$$ff = Q(x) x(1) + 6*(x(2)+.5).^2.$$

Compare the solution  $u(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}^*)$  with the solution on the reference domain  $u_r(\mathbf{x})$ .

#### Quantity of interest

In the case of random boundary value problems, we are interested in *Quantities of Interest (QoI)* such as the expectation and the variance of the solution with respect to the reference domain. If the parameter domain  $\Box$  is equipped with the *M*-dimensional (normalized) Lebesgue measure  $\mu^M$ , i.e.,  $2^{-M}\mu^M(\Box) = 1$ , these QoIs can be expressed as high-dimensional integrals

$$\mathbb{E}[u](\mathbf{x}) = 2^{-M} \int_{\Box} u(\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y},$$
  
$$\mathbb{V}[u](\mathbf{x}) = 2^{-M} \int_{\Box} u^2 (\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} - (\mathbb{E}[u](\mathbf{x}))^2.$$

We aim in this project on the approximation of these QoIs with the help of a *sparse grid quadrature*. We will base it on either the *composite trapezoidal rule*, the *Gauss-Legendre quadrature*, or the *Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature*. The composite trapezoid rule differs from the other two quadrature formulas in that it achieves higher accuracy by refinement (*h-convergence*), while the other two formulas achieve higher accuracy by increasing the degree of the polynomial exactness (*p-convergence*).

### One-dimensional quadrature formulas

In all formulas below, we set  $n = 2^{J-1} + 1$  for  $J \in \mathbb{N}_{>1}$ . For J = 1, we use the midpoint rule, i.e.,  $\xi_1 = 0$  and  $w_1 = 2$ .

**Composite trapezoidal rule.** We set quadrature points  $\xi_k = (k-1)h - 1$  for k = 1, ..., n with  $h = 2^{-J+2}$  and define the associated weights

$$w_k = \begin{cases} h, & \text{if } 1 < k < n, \\ h/2, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Gauss-Legendre quadrature. The computation of the points and weights of the one-dimensional Gauß-Legendre quadrature formula is performed using the *three-way recursion* of the *orthonor-malized* Legendre polynomials, i.e,

$$u_{-1}(x) = 0, \quad u_0(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \frac{n+1}{\sqrt{4(n+1)^2 - 1}} u_{n+1}(x) = x u_n(x) - \frac{n}{\sqrt{4n^2 - 1}} u_{n-1}(x)$$

for n = 0, 1, ... The points and weights for the quadrature formula in zeros of orthonormalized polynomials with respect to the density  $\rho(x)$ 

$$\beta_{k+1}u_{k+1}(x) = (x - \alpha_k)u_k(x) - \beta_k u_{k-1}(x)$$

are obtained from the eigenvalues or first entries of the corresponding eigenvectors of the Jacobi matrix

$$\mathbf{J}_n = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 & & \\ \beta_1 & \alpha_2 & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \beta_{n-1} \\ & & \beta_{n-1} & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $\{(\lambda_k, \mathbf{v}_k)\}_{k=1}^n$  are the eigenpairs of  $\mathbf{J}_n$ , then the positions and weights are given by

$$\xi_k = \lambda_k$$
 and  $w_k = v_{k,1} \int_{-1}^1 \rho(x) \, \mathrm{d}x.$ 

In particular, in our case the weights are given by  $w_k = 2v_{k,1}$ . It is well known that the exactness of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature with *n* points is 2n - 1.

Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature. The points of the Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature formula are given by extremes of the Chebyshev polynomials

$$T_{n-1}(x) = \cos(n-1)\arccos(x)$$

with respect to the boundary points, i.e.

$$\xi_k = \cos\left(\frac{(k-1)\pi}{n-1}\right)$$
 for  $k = 1, ..., n$ .

The determination of the associated weights is a more complex than in the case of the Gauß-Legendre quadrature. There holds (see [3] for example)

$$w_k = \frac{1}{1 - \xi_k^2} \frac{2\sin(\theta_{k-1})}{n-1} \sum_{s=0}^{n-3} \sin\left(\frac{(s+1)(k-1)\pi}{n-1}\right) \lambda_s \quad \text{for} \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, n-1,$$

where  $\theta_k = k\pi/(n-1)$  and

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{2(n-1)} \left( \gamma_0 + 2 \sum_{s=1}^{n-2} \gamma_s + \gamma_{n-1} \right), \quad w_n = \frac{1}{2(n-1)} \left( 2 \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (-1)^j \gamma_s - \gamma_0 + (-1)^n \gamma_{n-1} \right).$$

Here

$$\gamma_s = rac{1 + \cos(\pi s)}{1 - s^2} \quad ext{and} \quad \lambda_s = rac{2\cos(\pi s) + 2}{-s^3 - 3s^2 + s + 3}.$$

The implementation of these formulas in Matlab can be realized by the *discrete sine transformation* dst.

A notable advantage of the Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature is its efficiency when dealing with nested points, which leads to a significant reduction in the number of quadrature points required in high dimensions. However, this is at the expense of the polynomial exactness. For example, the Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature with n points has only the exactness n - 1.

Exercise 3. Implement the one-dimensional quadrature formulas in the Matlab functions

function Q = init\_tz(J), function Q = init\_gl(J), function Q = init\_cc(J),

which set up all points in the array xi and all weights in the cell-array w for the associated quadrature formulas. The points and weights should be stored in Q. Test your quadrature formulas by calculating integrals over polynomials.

### Sparse grid quadrature

Let  $Q_I$  denote the square operator of any quadrature formula with  $n_I$  points, i.e.,

$$Q_J: C([-1,1]) \to \mathbb{R}, \quad Q_J f = \sum_{k=1}^{n_J} w_{J,k} f(\xi_{J,k}).$$
 (5)

It applies for the composite trapezoidal rule and the Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature with  $n_J = 1$  for J = 1 and  $n_J = 2^{J-1} + 1$  for  $J \ge 2$  as well as  $n_J = J$  for the Gauß-Legendre quadrature.

A quadrature formula for functions in  $C(\Box)$  is obtained by tensorization

$$Q_J: C(\Box) \to \mathbb{R}, \quad \mathbf{Q}_J f = (Q_J \otimes \cdots \otimes Q_J) f = \sum_{k_1=1}^{n_J} \cdots \sum_{k_M=1}^{n_J} w_{J,k_1} \cdots w_{J,k_M} f(\xi_{J,k_1}, \dots, \xi_{J,k_M}).$$

It can be rewritten by means of the difference quadrature formulas

$$\Delta_J f := (Q_J - Q_{J-1})f \quad \text{with} \quad Q_0 = 0.$$

in accordance with

$$\mathbf{Q}_J f = \sum_{\|\mathbf{j}\|_{\infty} \leq J} (\Delta_{j_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \Delta_{j_M}) f$$

The associated *sparse grid quadrature formula* is then obtained by restricting the index set  $\{\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}^{M} : \|\mathbf{j}\|_{\infty} \leq J\}$  of the tensor product formula to  $\{\mathbf{j} \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}^{M} : \|\mathbf{j}\|_{1} \leq J\}$ , i.e.,

$$\mathbf{Q}_{J}^{\mathrm{SG}}f = \sum_{\|\mathbf{j}\|_{1} \le J + M - 1} (\Delta_{j_{1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \Delta_{j_{M}})f.$$
(6)



Figure 3: Set of quadrature points in 2D: trapezoidal rule (left), Gauß-Legendre quadrature (center), and Clenshaw-Curtis quadrature (right).

### Implementation

A meaningful numbering of the multi-indices is required for the implementation of the sparse grid quadrature (6). A specific numbering is provided by the *droplet algorithm* listed below, compare [2]. However, the efficient implementation depends significantly on the number of required function evaluations. For the non-nested Gauß-Legendre quadrature, the *combination technique* can be used to evaluate the quadrature formula (6). Thus, only the one-dimensional quadrature formulas (5) are required, which are combined according to the formula

$$\mathbf{Q}_{J}^{\text{SG}}f = \sum_{J \le \|\mathbf{j}\|_{1} \le J + M - 1} (-1)^{J + M - \|\mathbf{j}\|_{1} - 1} \binom{M - 1}{\|\mathbf{j}\|_{1} - J} (Q_{j_{1}} \otimes \dots \otimes Q_{j_{M}})f.$$
(7)

With this formula, only the function value in zero is evaluated several times.

### Algorithm. Droplet algorithm

*Input*: dimension *M* and level *J Output*: matrix **K** with all permissible indices  $\mathbf{j} = [j_1, \dots, j_M]$ 1: set  $\mathbf{j} = [1, ..., 1]$ 2: set  $\ell = 1$ 3: while  $j_M \leq J$  do if  $\|\mathbf{j}\|_1 > J + M - 1$  then 4: set  $j_{\ell} = 1$ 5: set  $\ell = \ell + 1$ 6: 7: else save j in K 8: set  $\ell = 1$ 9: end 10: set  $j_{\ell} = j_{\ell} + 1$ 11: 12: end while

For the nested quadrature formulas, the evaluation is more complicated. In this case, we have

$$\mathbf{Q}_{J}^{\text{SG}}f = \sum_{\|\mathbf{j}\|_{1} \le J + M - 1} \sum_{k_{1} = n_{j_{1}} - m_{j_{1}} + 1}^{n_{j_{1}}} \cdots \sum_{k_{M} = n_{j_{M}} - m_{j_{M}} + 1}^{n_{j_{M}}} w_{\mathbf{j},\mathbf{k}}f(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{\mathbf{j},\mathbf{k}}),\tag{8}$$

see [1]. The numbers  $m_j$  correspond to the number of new quadrature points at level j, i.e.  $m_j = n_j - n_{j-1}$ , where we assume a hierarchical numbering of the quadrature points. Furthermore, the quadrature points are  $\xi_{\mathbf{j},\mathbf{k}} := (\xi_{j_1,k_1}, \dots, \xi_{j_M,k_M})$  and the quadrature weights are

$$w_{\mathbf{j},\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\|\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{q}\|_1 \le J+2M-1} v_{j_1+q_1,k_1} \cdots v_{j_M+q_M,k_M}$$
(9)

with  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 1}^{M}$  and

$$v_{(j+q),k} := \begin{cases} w_{j,k}, & \text{if } q = 1, \\ w_{j+q-1,k} - w_{j+q-2,k}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Exercise 4. Write a Matlab function

function K = droplet(dim,lvl)

which realizes the droplet algorithm. Implement the functions

function SQ = sparseQuadrature(dim, lvl, Q), function SQ = sparseQuadratureNested(dim, lvl, Q),

which evaluate the integral by the sparse grid quadrature formulas (7) and (8). The functions receive a level lvl, a dimension dim and an one-dimensional quadrature rule stored in Q as arguments.

### Numerical experiments

Exercise 5. Consider the integral

$$\int_{[0,1]^M} (1+1/M)^M \prod_{k=1}^M x_k^{1/M} \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{x} = 1.$$

Transform the integral to the domain  $\Box$  and approximate its value by using the sparse grid combination technique for M = 5 and J = 1, ..., 6. The numerical results from [1] should be used as a reference.

**Exercise 6.** Consider the problem (3) for M = 5 and with the reference domain, covariance and right-hand side from Exercise 1. Take EU from data.mat as the reference solution obtained by quasi-Monte Carlo quadrature with  $10^5$  samples. Determine the expected solution of the problem using the different quadrature methods introduced above for J = 1, ..., 6. Visualize the  $L^2$ -error of the respective expectations with respect to the reference solution against the number of solved differential equations in a loglog plot. The outcome should look like seen in Figure 4.



Figure 4: Reference solution (left) and convergence histories of the different quadrature methods (right).

# References

- [1] Thomas Gerstner and Michael Griebel. Numerical integration using sparse grids. *Numer. Algorithms*, 18(3-4):209-232, 1998.
- [2] Astrid Meyer (geb. Fischer). Interpolation von vektorwertigen Funktionen mit adaptiven dünnen Gittern. Diplomarbeit, Institut für Numerische Simulation, Universität Bonn, 2007.
- [3] Alvise Sommariva. Fast Construction of Fejér and Clenshaw-Curtis Rules for General Weight Functions. *Comput. Math. Appl.*, 65(4):682–693, 2013.