# Steps in Uncertainty Quantification

**Note:** Uncertainty quantification requires synergy between statistics, mathematics and application area.



# **Uncertainty Propagation**

### Setting:

- We assume that we have determined distributions for parameters
  - e.g., Bayesian inference, prior experiments, expert opinion

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{T}_1 &= \lambda_1 - d_1 T_1 - (1 - \varepsilon) k_1 V T_1 \\ \dot{T}_2 &= \lambda_2 - d_2 T_2 - (1 - f\varepsilon) k_2 V T_2 \\ \dot{T}_1^* &= (1 - \varepsilon) k_1 V T_1 - \delta T_1^* - m_1 E T_1^* \\ \dot{T}_2^* &= (1 - f\varepsilon) k_2 V T_2 - \delta T_2^* - m_2 E T_2^* \\ \dot{V} &= N_T \delta (T_1^* + T_2^*) - c V - [(1 - \varepsilon) \rho_1 k_1 T_1 + (1 - f\varepsilon) \rho_2 k_2 T_2] V \\ \dot{E} &= \lambda_E + \frac{b_E (T_1^* + T_2^*)}{T_1^* + T_2^* + K_b} E - \frac{d_E (T_1^* + T_2^*)}{T_1^* + T_2^* + K_d} E - \delta_E E \end{aligned}$$

Goal: Construct statistics for quantities of interest

- e.g., Expected viral load in HIV patient with appropriate uncertainty intervals
- Note: Often involves moderate to highdimensional integration

$$\mathbb{E}[V(t)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} V(t,q) \rho(q) dq$$



# Forward Uncertainty Propagation: Linear Models

Linear Models: Analytic mean and variance relations

**Example:** Linear stress-strain relation

$$\Upsilon_i = Ee_i + E_2e_i^3 + \varepsilon_i , \ i = 1, \dots, n$$

#### **Model Statistics:**



Let  $\overline{E}, \overline{E}_2$  and  $var(E), var(E_2)$  denote parameter means and variance. Then

$$\mathbb{E}[Ee_i + E_2e_i^3] = \overline{E}e_i + \overline{E}_2e_i^3$$
$$\operatorname{var}[Ee_i + E_2e_i^3] = e_i^2\operatorname{var}(E) + e_i^6\operatorname{var}(E_2) + 2e_i^4\operatorname{cov}(E, E_2)$$

**Response Statistics:** Assume measurement errors uncorrelated from model response.

$$\mathbb{E}[\Upsilon_i] = \overline{E}e_i + \overline{E}_2 e_i^3$$
$$\operatorname{var}[\Upsilon_i] = e_i^2 \operatorname{var}(E) + e_i^6 \operatorname{var}(E_2) + 2e_i^4 \operatorname{cov}(E, E_2) + \operatorname{var}(\varepsilon_i)$$

Problem: Models are almost always nonlinearly parameterized

# Forward Uncertainty Propagation: Sampling Methods

**Strategy 1:** Randomly sample from parameter and measurement error distributions and propagate through model to quantify response uncertainty.

### Advantages:

- Applicable to nonlinear models.
- Parameters can be correlated and non-Gaussian.
- Straight-forward to apply and convergence rate is independent of number of parameters.
- Can directly incorporate both parameter and measurement uncertainties.

### **Disadvantages:**

- Very slow convergence rate:  $\mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{M})$  where M is the number of samples.
- 100-fold more evaluations required to gain additional place of accuracy.
- This motivates numerical analysis techniques.

Motivation: Computation of expected values requires approximation of integrals

$$\mathbb{E}[u(t,x)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^p} u(t,x,q) \rho(q) dq$$

Numerical Quadrature:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^p} f(q) \rho(q) dq \approx \sum_{r=1}^R f(q^r) w^r$$

Example: HIV model

$$\mathbb{E}[V(t)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} V(t, q) \rho(q) dq$$

#### **Questions:**

- How do we choose the quadrature points and weights?
  - E.g., Newton-Cotes; e.g., trapezoid rule

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(q) dq \approx \frac{h}{2} \left[ f(a) + f(b) + 2 \sum_{r=1}^{R-2} f(q^{r}) \right]$$
$$q^{r} = a + hr, \ h = \frac{b-a}{R-1}$$

Motivation: Computation of expected values requires approximation of integrals

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### **Numerical Quadrature:**

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### **Questions:**

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  - E.g., Newton-Cotes, Gaussian algorithms



#### **Numerical Quadrature:**

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{p}} f(q) \rho(q) dq \approx \sum_{r=1}^{R} f(q^{r}) w^{r}$$

#### **Questions:**

• Can we construct nested algorithms to improve efficiency?



- E.g., employ Clenshaw-Curtis points

### **Questions:**

• How do we reduce required number of points while maintaining accuracy?

Tensored Grids: Exponential growth



0 0 0.75 0 0.5 • 0 0 0 0 0.25 0 0 00 0.5 0.25 0.75

p	$R_\ell$	Sparse Grid ${\cal R}$	Tensored Grid $R = (R_{\ell})^p$	
2	9	29	81	
5	9	241	59,049	
10	9	1581	$> 3 \times 10^9$	
50	9	171,901	$> 5 \times 10^{47}$	
100	9	1,353,801	$> 2 \times 10^{95}$	( (

**Sparse Grids:** Same accuracy

### Problem:

- Accuracy of methods diminishes as parameter dimension p increases
- Suppose  $f \in C^{\alpha}([0,1]^p)$
- Tensor products: Take  $R_{\ell}$  points in each dimension so  $R = (R_{\ell})^{p}$  total points
- Quadrature errors:

Newton-Cotes:  $E \sim \mathcal{O}(R_{\ell}^{-\alpha}) = \mathcal{O}(R^{-\alpha/p})$ Gaussian:  $E \sim \mathcal{O}(e^{-\beta R_{\ell}}) = \mathcal{O}\left(e^{-\beta \frac{p}{R}}\right)$ Sparse Grid:  $E \sim \mathcal{O}\left(\mathcal{R}^{-\alpha}\log\left(\mathcal{R}\right)^{\frac{(p-1)(\alpha+1)}{2}}\right)$ 

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• Alternative: Monte Carlo quadrature

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^{p}} f(q) \rho(q) dq \approx \frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^{R} f(q^{r}) \quad , \quad E \sim \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{R}}\right)$$

- Advantage: Errors independent of dimension p
- Disadvantage: Convergence is very slow!

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**Conclusion:** For high enough dimension p, monkeys throwing darts will beat Gaussian and sparse grid techniques!

## Monte Carlo Sampling Techniques

#### Issues:

- Very low accuracy and slow convergence
- Random sampling may not "randomly" cover space ...



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- Very low accuracy and slow convergence
- Random sampling may not "randomly" cover space ...



**Sobol' Sequence:** Use a base of two to form successively finer uniform partitions of unit interval and reorder coordinates in each dimension. 82

## **Quasi-Monte Carlo Sampling Techniques**

#### Issues:

- Very low accuracy and slow convergence
- Random sampling may not "randomly" cover space ...



# Monte Carlo Sampling Techniques

**Example:** Use Monte Carlo sampling to approximate area of circle





Strategy:

- Randomly sample *N* points in square  $\Rightarrow$  approximately  $N\frac{\pi}{\lambda}$  in circle
- Count *M* points in circle

$$\Rightarrow \pi pprox rac{4M}{N}$$

### **Quasi-Monte Carlo:**

• SAMSI Program on *Quasi-Monte Carlo and High Dimensional Sampling* Methods in Applied Math in 2017-18

# MATLAB Example

### Monte Carlo Quadrature:

- Run rand\_points.m to observe uniformly sampled and Sobol' points.
- Run pi\_approx.m with different values of N to see if you observe convergence rate of  $1/\sqrt{N}$

### Website:

• https://rsmith.math.ncsu.edu/DATAWORKS19/

## Confidence, Credible and Prediction Intervals

### Note:

- We now know how to compute the mean response for the QoI.
- How do we compute appropriate intervals?



# Confidence, Credible and Prediction Intervals

**Data:**  $\Upsilon = [\Upsilon_1, \cdots, \Upsilon_n]$  of iid random observations



**Confidence Interval (Frequentist):** A  $100 \times (1 - \alpha)$ % confidence interval for a fixed, unknown parameter  $q_0$  is a random interval  $[L_c(\Upsilon), U_c(\Upsilon)]$ , having probability at least  $1 - \alpha$  of covering  $q_0$  under the joint distribution of  $\Upsilon$ .

**Credible Interval (Bayesian):** A  $100 \times (1 - \alpha)$  % credible interval is that having probability at least  $1 - \alpha$  of containing q.

**Strategy:** Sample out of parameter density  $\rho_Q(q)$ 



## Confidence, Credible and Prediction Intervals

**Data:**  $\Upsilon = [\Upsilon_1, \cdots, \Upsilon_n]$  of iid random observations

Prediction Interval: A  $100 \times (1 - \alpha)$ % prediction interval for a future observable  $\Upsilon_{n+1}$  is a random interval  $[L_c(\Upsilon), U_c(\Upsilon)]$  having probability at least  $1 - \alpha$  of of containing  $\Upsilon_{n+1}$  under the joint distribution of  $(\Upsilon, \Upsilon_{n+1})$ .

**Example:** Consider linear model

$$\Upsilon_i = q_0 + q_1 x_i + \varepsilon_i , \ i = 1, \cdots, n$$



## Example: HIV Model

Model: 
$$\dot{T}_1 = \lambda_1 - d_1 T_1 - (1 - \varepsilon) k_1 V T_1$$
  
 $\dot{T}_2 = \lambda_2 - d_2 T_2 - (1 - f\varepsilon) k_2 V T_2$   
 $\dot{T}_1^* = (1 - \varepsilon) k_1 V T_1 - \delta T_1^* - m_1 E T_1^*$   
 $\dot{T}_2^* = (1 - f\varepsilon) k_2 V T_2 - \delta T_2^* - m_2 E T_2^*$   
 $\dot{V} = N_T \delta (T_1^* + T_2^*) - cV - [(1 - \varepsilon) \rho_1 k_1 T_1 + (1 - f\varepsilon) \rho_2 k_2 T_2] V$   
 $\dot{E} = \lambda_E + \frac{b_E (T_1^* + T_2^*)}{T_1^* + T_2^* + K_b} E - \frac{d_E (T_1^* + T_2^*)}{T_1^* + T_2^* + K_b} E - \delta_E E$ 

Parameter Chains and Densities:  $q = [b_E, \delta, d_1, k_2, \lambda_1, K_b]$ 



## Propagation of Uncertainty – HIV Example

**Parameter Densities:** 



#### **Techniques:**

- Sample from parameter and observation error densities to construct mean response, credible intervals, and prediction intervals for Qol.
- Slow convergence rate  $\mathcal{O}(1/\sqrt{M})$



# Use of Prediction Intervals: Nuclear Power Plant Design

**Subchannel Code (**COBRA-TF): numerous closure relations, ~70 parameters

Nu: Nusselt number  $Nu = 0.023 Re^{0.8} Pr^{0.4}$  Re: Reynolds number Pr: Prandtl number

**Industry Standard:** Employ conservative, uniform, bounds

i.e., [0, 0.046], [0, 1.6], [0,0.8]

e.g., Dittus—Boelter Relation

**Bayesian Analysis:** Employ conservative bounds as priors



**Note:** Substantial reduction in parameter uncertainty

Rod cluster control assembly

Bottom

nozzle

op nozzle

-Plug

Pellet

Fuel rod

Fuel tube

Grid assemblu

Fuel rod

Control rod guide thimble

# Use of Prediction Intervals: Nuclear Power Plant Design

Strategy: Propagate parameter uncertainties through COBRA-TF to

determine uncertainty in maximum fuel temperature



### Notes:

- Temperature uncertainty reduced from 40 degrees to 5 degrees
- Can run plant 20 degrees hotter, which significantly improves efficiency

Ramification: Savings of 10 billion dollars per year for US power plants Issues:

- We considered only one of many closure relations
- Nuclear regulatory commission takes years to change requirements and codes

Good News: We are now working with Westinghouse to reduce uncertainties.

# MATLAB Example

SIR Model:

$$\begin{split} \frac{dS}{dt} &= \delta N - \delta S - \gamma IS \quad , \ S(0) = S_0 \quad \text{Susceptible} \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \gamma IS - (r+\delta)I \quad , \ I(0) = I_0 \quad \text{Infectious} \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= rI - \delta R \quad , \ R(0) = R_0 \quad \text{Recovered} \end{split}$$

Note:

• Run either the 3 or 4 parameter model and compute the prediction intervals.

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