



Unique solutions to increase the value of oil and gas projects

SPT GROUP
A Schlumberger Company

Stochastic [Spectral] Methods in the Context of Hydrocarbon Reservoir History Matching

Oliver Pajonk^{1,2}

¹SPT Group GmbH, Hamburg, Germany
²Institute of Scientific Computing, TU Braunschweig, Germany

be dynamic®

Outline

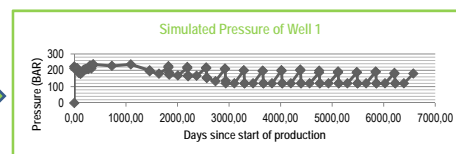
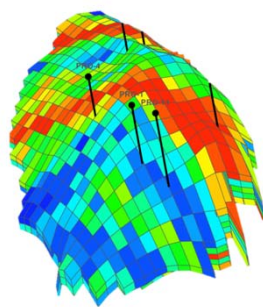
- Motivation
- Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification
 - Stochastic Spectral Proxy Models
 - Outlook: Inversion Methods based on Proxies
- Numerical Example
 - Building a Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation
- Discussion

Outline

- Motivation
- Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification
 - Stochastic Spectral Proxy Models
 - Outlook: Inversion Methods based on Proxies
- Numerical Example
 - Building a Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation
- Discussion

3

Uncertainty Quantification (UQ): Forward Problem

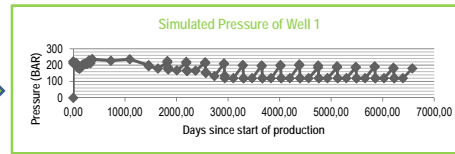
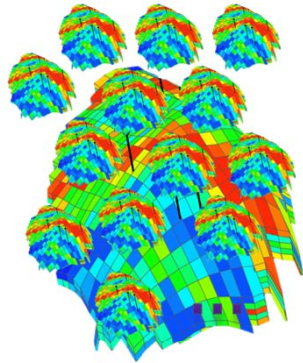


Task: solve $\mathbf{y}_t = h(\mathbf{x}_t)$ via simulation; \mathbf{x}_t is uncertain – how does that influence the output?

Difficulties: many uncertain parameters; simulation expensive; propagation should be exact, but typically cannot modify simulation code

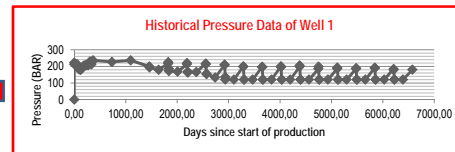
4

Uncertainty Quantification (UQ): Inverse Problem



Historical data \mathbf{z}_t : assume that $\mathbf{z}_t = h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t) + \epsilon$

- $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t$ represents the "true" state and parameters (unknown)



Task: What does uncertain data \mathbf{z}_t tell about uncertain input \mathbf{x}_t ?

Difficulties: h not invertible; historical data noisy; ill-posed problem, not uniquely solvable.

5

Outline

- Motivation
- **Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification**
 - Stochastic Spectral Proxy Models
 - Outlook: Inversion Methods based on Proxies
- Numerical Example
 - Building a Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation
- Discussion

6

Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification

Basics & Notation

1. Introduce a parameter ω describing uncertainty,
2. Use probability theory to quantify it.

- Primary quantities: random variables (RVs; here: of finite variance):
 $\mathbf{x}(\omega), \mathbf{y}(\omega), \mathbf{z}(\omega), \boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\omega) \in L_2(\Omega; V)$
 - Ω : sample space of possible outcomes, V : vector space.
- Inherent treatment of uncertainties from different sources
 - Uncertain initial state & parameters; model uncertainties; measurement noise
- Inverse problem no longer ill-posed
- Inference: Bayes's rule \rightarrow conditional expectation (CE)
 - Consistent way to include new information (more on that later)

7

Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification

Computer Representation of Random Variables

- Well known: (Monte Carlo) sampling representation:

$$R = \{r_i\}, \quad i \in [1, N], N \gg 1,$$

$$r_i = r(\omega_i), \quad \omega_i \sim P$$
 - MC sampling + LCE
 \rightarrow Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF) and related methods
 - Known advantages and drawbacks. Can we do better?
- Another popular possibility: spectral representation:

$$r(\omega) = \sum_{\alpha \in J} r^\alpha f_\alpha(\xi_1(\omega), \xi_2(\omega), \dots)$$

- Series of known functions and basis RVs; spectral coefficients
- Good: Fast convergence, no random sampling

8

Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification

Polynomial Chaos Expansion – A Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model

- Wiener’s Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE) using Hermite polynomials:

$$r(\omega) = \sum_{\alpha \in J} r^\alpha H_\alpha(\theta_1(\omega), \dots, \theta_k(\omega), \dots)$$

- Orthogonal **basis functions**, standard normal **basis RVs**
- Others are known and possible, e.g.:
 - Wiener-Askey: Legendre + Uniform, Jacobi + Beta,
 - “arbitrary” PC: construct from data

9

Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification

Polynomial Chaos Expansion – A Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model

- Question: How to efficiently compute coefficients r^α ?
- Approach 1: “Intrusive” method
 - Implement constitutive law based on spectral expansion
 - Results in large coupled systems of equations
 - Often infeasible: no access to code, too difficult / costly to change code
- Approach 2: Orthogonality → Use projection:

$$\forall \alpha: r^\alpha = \langle r | H_\alpha \rangle / \langle H_\alpha | H_\alpha \rangle$$

- Needs high-dimensional “integrals” (interpolation) over Ω
- One way: Collocation
 - Interpolation-rules based on polynomial basis, e.g. Gauss-Hermite
- Full tensor grid not feasible → Use “Smolyak sparse grids”

10

Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification

Bayesian Inversion / Conditioning

- Classical tool of inference: Bayes's theorem gives conditional probability measure of "model given data".
 - Use MCMC + stochastic proxy to compute posterior
- More "modern", equivalent: Conditional expectation (CE) computes *expectation* with this posterior measure.
- Inverse problem becomes: Compute $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = E(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})$
- CE defined as orthogonal projection ($L_2 \rightarrow$ Hilbert space) of \mathbf{x} ("prior") on the *subspace generated by all measurable functions of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{z}* :
 - $\text{span}\{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \text{ for some } f\}$.
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ ("posterior") optimal in the mean square sense
 - Very direct approach, no sampling
 - Affine approximation \rightarrow similar to EnKF; square root approach exists
 - Iterative / non-linear extensions topic of current research

11

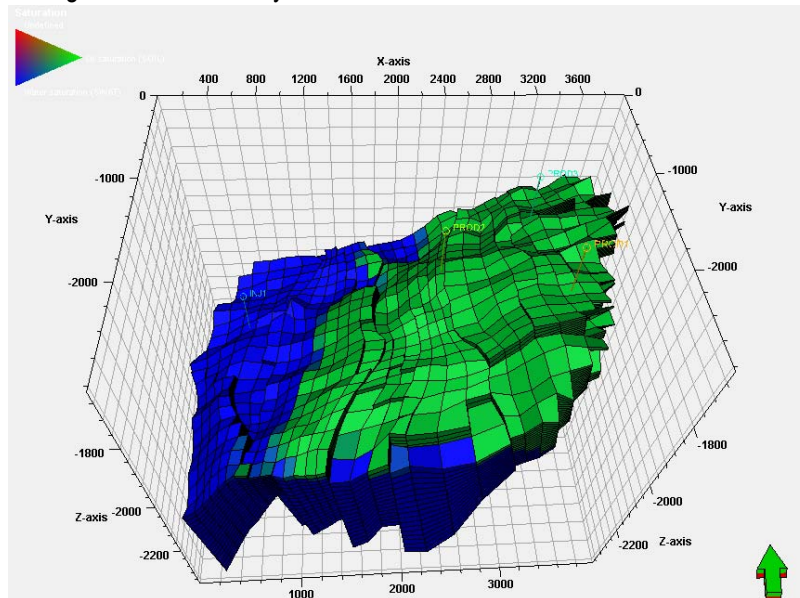
Outline

- Motivation
- Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification
 - Stochastic Spectral Proxy Models
 - Outlook: Inversion Methods based on Proxies
- Numerical Example
 - Building a Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation
- Discussion

12

Numerical Example

Building a Stochastic Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation



13

Numerical Example

Building a Stochastic Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation

- Grid: $31 \times 21 \times 17 = 11067$ cells, 9955 active
- Water-oil system
- 14 faults, three main sand bodies (layers 1-6, 7-12, 13-17)
- One aquifer in central north, connected to lowest sand body
- Three producers, one injector

- Nine independent uncertain parameters:
 - Four main fault multipliers
 - Three permeability multipliers
 - Two z-transmissibility multipliers (layers 6, 12)

- A priori determined “reasonable” parameter values using optimization
- Then: Consider each parameter φ as Gaussian RV with $p\%$ std. dev., i.e.

$$\varphi(\omega) \sim N(\varphi_0, p/100 \text{ abs}(\varphi_0))$$

14

Numerical Example

Building a Stochastic Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation

- **Task:** Proxy model for *field oil production total* (FOPT) after 6 years
 - Note: Building additional proxies is very cheap once collocation points are known!
 - Input uncertainty considered: 5%, unless stated otherwise

- **Methods:**
 - Build PCE proxy of maximum polynomial order 3, using:
 1. Full tensor grid of Gauss-Hermite points
 - Requires $3^9 = 19683$ simulations
 2. Smolyak sparse grid of Gauss-Hermite points
 - Requires 181 simulations

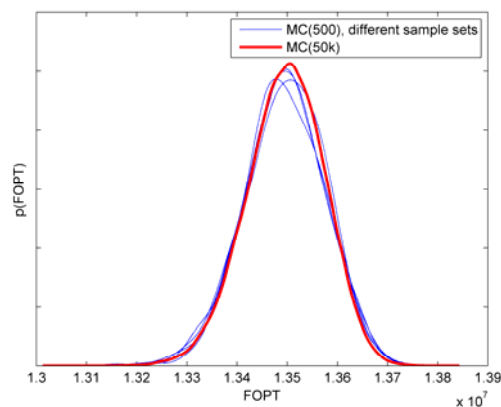
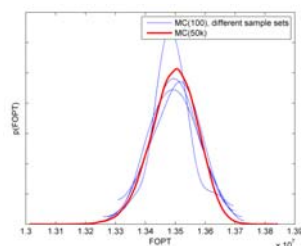
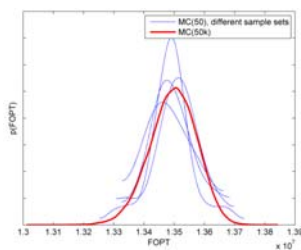
 - Each proxy has 220 coefficients
 - For comparison: MCMC sampling with 50000 samples

15

Numerical Example

Before: Monte Carlo – A Word of Warning

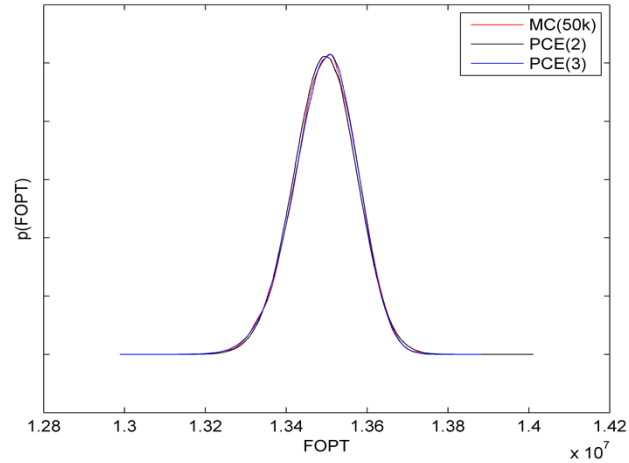
- Convergence of Monte Carlo is slow (of course... just as reminder ☺)



16

Numerical Example

Results: Full Tensor Grid, PCE of Orders 2 and 3

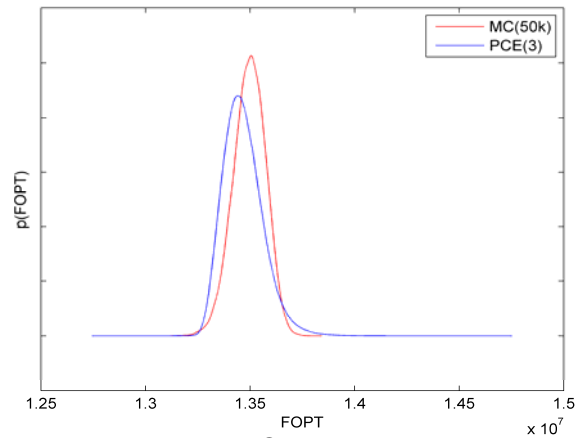


- PCE(2) is *slightly* off, PCE(3) has converged to MC result
- But 19683 simulations are obviously a problem ☺

17

Numerical Example

Results: Smolyak Sparse Grid, PCE of Order 3

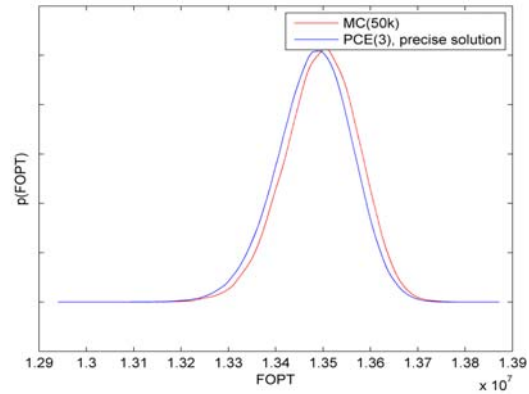


- Ouch... that does not work ☹
- An **important** lesson for Smolyak grids:
Smolyak has negative integration weights - your integrand should not be “noisy”!
- Here: Adaptive time-stepping (!) and (likely) also solution precision are a problem (under further investigation...)

18

Numerical Example

Results: Smolyak Sparse Grid, PCE of Order 3, “Precise” Simulation Results

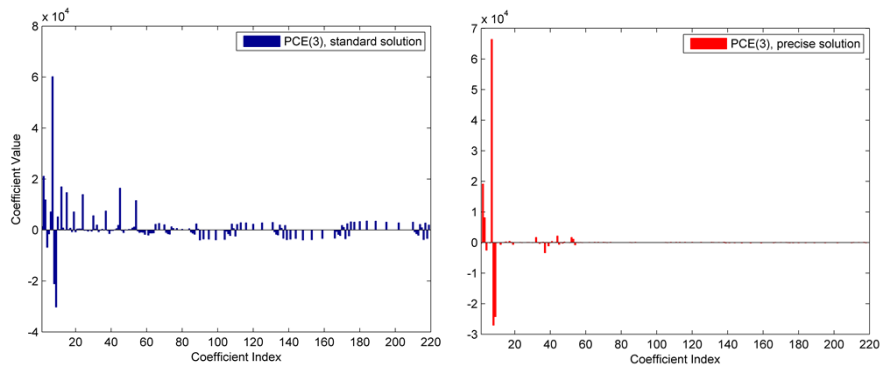


- Modified simulation time-stepping & solution precision
- Each simulation is obviously slower – but it’s “just” 181 of them!
- Systematic error likely due to differences in precision & stepping – so PCE(3) solution may be even *better* than MC solution

19

Numerical Example

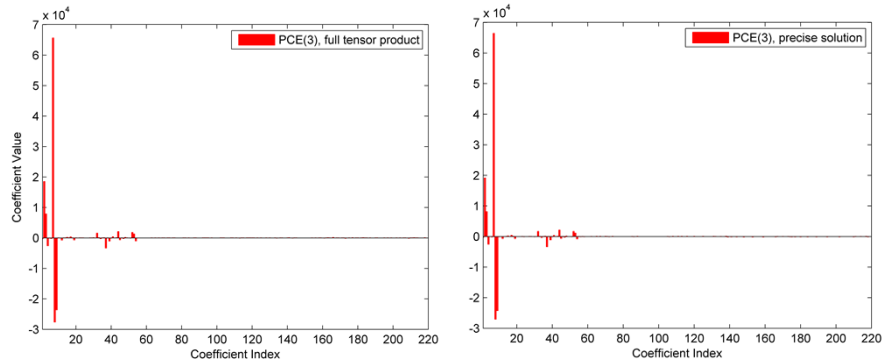
Results: PCE Coefficients



- First coefficient left out (expected value; very large)
- Both coefficient sets represent same proxy
- One expects that coefficients decrease (due to index ordering by “total degree” of polynomial)
- Left: not converged properly, Right: converged, many higher terms zero

20

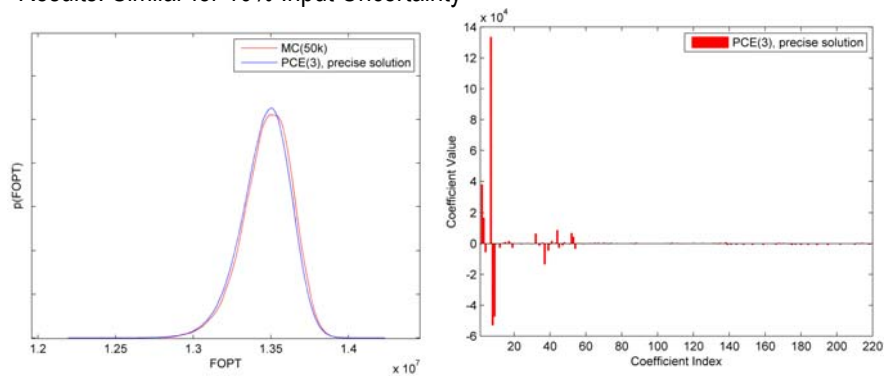
Numerical Example Results: PCE Coefficients



- First coefficient left out (expected value; very large)
- Both coefficient sets represent same proxy
- Left: constructed from full tensor product, Right: sparse tensor product
- No visible differences between full tensor and sparse grid

21

Numerical Example Results: Similar for 10% Input Uncertainty



- First coefficient left out (expected value; very large)
- Reasonable agreement between MC, PCE
- Differences likely again due to differences in model precision
- Higher-order coefficients become (relative to lower order coefficients) more important – as one would expect, given larger input uncertainty

22

Outline

- Motivation
- Stochastic Methods for Uncertainty Quantification
 - Stochastic Spectral Proxy Models
 - Outlook: Inversion Methods based on Proxies
- Numerical Example
 - Building a Stochastic Spectral Proxy Model for Reservoir Simulation
- Discussion

23

Discussion

- PCE is a specific stochastic spectral proxy model
 - PCE just one example; generalisations exist (other distributions)
 - Smolyak quadrature is capable of creating this proxy – but it has certain requirements
 - The approach is applicable to hydrocarbon reservoir simulation
- Demonstration highlighted advantages of spectral representation
 - Better representation of higher moments due to convergence properties
 - Any proxy is very cheap to compute once collocation points are available
 - Use proxy to precisely & rigorously quantify prediction uncertainty
- Use Bayesian updating for history matching (not demonstrated here)
 - Possible to update this proxy *directly* in the Bayesian sense (no sampling, linear approximations are computationally cheap, cf. EnKF)
 - Iterative & non-linear updates topic of research
 - Already possible: Use classical approaches like MCMC to compute update – sampling the proxy is *very* cheap & still precise!

24

Discussion

- Difficulties arise with larger numbers of uncertain input parameters (e.g. uncertain property maps)
 - Requires parameter reduction techniques like KLE, PCA, Kernel-PCA, adaptive subspace-techniques, ...
- Tuning solver so that solution is “precise enough” for Smolyak may not be simple – but probably worth it

Acknowledgements

- Functions related to Hermite basis are from SGLib (<https://github.com/ezander/sqlib>)

Some Selected References

- Pajonk, O.; Rosić, B. V. & Matthies, H. G., Sampling-free Linear Bayesian Updating of Model State and Parameters using a Square Root Approach, *Computers & Geosciences*, 2013, 55, 70-83
- Rosić, B. V.; Litvinenko, A.; Pajonk, O. & Matthies, H. G., Direct Bayesian Update of Polynomial Chaos Representations, *Journal of Computational Physics*, 2012, 231, 5761-5787
- Xiu, D., Numerical Methods for Stochastic Computations - A Spectral Method Approach, *Princeton University Press*, 2010
- Le Maître, O. P. & Knio, O. M., Spectral Methods for Uncertainty Quantification with Applications to Computational Fluid Dynamics, *Springer*, 2010

25



SPT GROUP
A Schlumberger Company

Australia, Perth	Tel: +61 8 9286 6500	Norway, Oslo	Tel: +47 63 89 04 00
Brazil, Rio de Janeiro	Tel: +55 21 3544 0002	Norway, Bergen	Tel: +47 63 89 04 00
Canada, Calgary	Tel: +1 403 277 6688	Russia, Moscow	Tel: +7 495 798 8666
China, Beijing	Tel: +86 10 6597 8527	UAE, Dubai	Tel: +971 4 426 4855
Germany, Hamburg	Tel: +49 40 27 85 88 10	UK, London	Tel: +44 1483 307 870
Mexico, Mexico City	Tel: +52 55 5211 9211	USA, Houston	Tel: +1 281 496 9898
Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur	Tel: +60 3 2161 4570		

www.sptgroup.com