A non-Gaussian ensemble analysis scheme based on rank histograms

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Ensemble of NATL0.25+BGC simulations (Beal et al., 2010), Gulf Stream station (47W/ 40N). chlorophyll (CHL) / detritus (DET).







- The analysis step of the serial EnKF can be decomposed in 2 successive operations (Anderson, 2003):
 - Correction of observed variable z:

$$\delta z = \frac{\operatorname{Var}(z)}{\operatorname{Var}(z) + \operatorname{Var}(z^o)} \ (z^o - z);$$

• Corrections of unobserved variables x and y:

$$\delta x = \frac{\operatorname{Cov}(x,z)}{\operatorname{Var}(z)} \, \delta z, \ \delta y = \frac{\operatorname{Cov}(y,z)}{\operatorname{Var}(z)} \, \delta z.$$





















Strongly non-Gaussian distribution





	transform	sampling
Parametric	EnKF (includes ETKF) Truncated-Gaussian EnKF (1)	
Semi-parametric	EnKF with Gaussian anamorphosis (2)	
Non-parametric	ETPF (4)	Particle filters (3)

(I) Lauvernet et al (2009)

(2) Holm et al (2002), Bertino et al (2003); Simon and Bertino (2009); Béal et al (2010); Brankart et al (2012)

(3) Gordon et al (1993); Van Leeuwen et al (2009, 2010), Snyder et al (2008)

(4) Reich (2013)

EnKF with Gaussian anamorphosis



EnKF with Gaussian anamorphosis



EnKF with Gaussian anamorphosis



• The serial EnKF analysis is the parametric, Gaussian implementation of the sequential realization method (Tarantola, 2005, Section 2.3.3). Here with 3 variables:

$$p(x, y, z|z^{o}) = p(z|z^{o})p(x|z, z^{o})p(y|x, z, z^{o}).$$

$$\delta z = \frac{\operatorname{Var}(z)}{\operatorname{Var}(z) + \operatorname{Var}(z^o)} \ (z^o - z);$$

$$\delta x = \frac{\operatorname{Cov}(x, z)}{\operatorname{Var}(z)} \, \delta z, \qquad \delta y = \frac{\operatorname{Cov}(y, z)}{\operatorname{Var}(z)} \, \delta z.$$

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 Anderson (2010) replaces the linear update for z with an implementation of Bayes' rule,

$$p(z|z^{o}) = p(z)p(z^{o}|z),$$

based on rank histograms.







• And unobserved variables are corrected using linear regressions, as in the EnKF.



- Fully non-Gaussian method...
- Robust...
- ... for observed variables

Basic idea of the Multivariate Rank Histogram Filter

For 2 variables x and z, z is observed by z° .

Knothe-Rosenblatt rearrangement of the joint pdf $p(x,z|z^{o}) = p(z|z^{o})p(x|z,z^{o})$

 \rightarrow Sequential computation for z and x (as in the EnKF).









For each particle i, an analyzed value for X must be calculated.



To form $p(X|Z = Z_i^a)$, select particles in the background ensemble. X analysis could be randomly drawn from $p(X|Z = Z_i^a)$.







The marginal CDF of X $|Z = Z_i^b$ and X $|Z = Z_i^a$ are formed.



The analysis value for X is obtained by preserving the particle position in the marginal CDFs.



This is done for each particle.



The Multivariate Rank Histogram Filter With 3 variables:

$$p(x, y, z | z^{o}) = p(z | z^{o}) p(x | z, z^{o}) p(y | x, z, z^{o})$$

To sample $p(x|z=z_i^a)$, particles are selected based on their distance to z_i^a along z axis.

To sample $p(y|x=x_i^a, z=z_i^a)$, particles are selected based on their distance to (x_i^a, z_i^a) in the (x,z) plane.



Analysis illustration

NATL0.25+BGC

Observed: CHL

Unobserved: MLD and DET



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NATL0.25+BGC

Observed: CHL

Unobserved: MLD and DET



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Observed: CHL

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- Experiment I:
 - X,Y,Z observed (error std=2);
 - Analysis every 10 (weakly), 25 (moderately), and 50 (strongly nonlinear case) time steps.
- Experiment 2:
 - Only Z observed (error std=I);
 - Analysis every 40 time steps.

- 10⁵ analysis steps;
- Diagnostics: RMS error and Kullback-Leibler divergence (ref: large ensemble SIR filter).

$$d(P,Q) = \int \log \frac{P}{Q} dP.$$

L63, XYZ observed, dt=10 RMS error



L63, XYZ observed, dt=25 RMS error



L63, XYZ observed, dt=50 RMS error



L63, XYZ observed, dt=10 Kullback-Leibler divergence



L63, XYZ observed, dt=25 Kullback-Leibler divergence



L63, XYZ observed, dt=50 Kullback-Leibler divergence





L63, only Z observed



L63, only Z observed



L63, only Z observed Analyses at cycle 364



L63, only Z observed RMS error



L63, only Z observed Kullback-Leibler divergence





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 In its original form, the MRHF is subject to the curse of dimensionality!!





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- Need for the mean-field approximation:

$$p(x, y, z | z^o) = p(z | z^o) p(x | z, z^o) p(y | \mathbf{x}, z, z^o)$$



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- In its original form, the MRHF is subject to the curse of dimensionality!!
- Need for the mean-field approximation;
- Extremely expensive in the present form (work in progress)



Last remarks

- The MRHF is one implementation of EnDA based on Optimal transport theory (see S. Reich's papers)
- The MRHF follows the logic of the stochastic EnKF (coupling possible)
- Easy localization of the analysis
- Smoothing straightforward

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- (3) Gordon et al (1993); Van Leeuwen et al (2009, 2010), Snyder et al (2008)
- (4) Reich (2013)
- (5) Metref et al (in revision)



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Local least square fit (Anderson, 2003)



FIG. 2. As in Fig. 1 but showing the application of local least squares fits, in this case using only the nearest neighbor in y, to compute the updates for x given the updates for y. The local updates for the first and fourth ensemble members are shown by the black vectors.

FIG. 3. As in Fig. 1 but now $y = h(x_2)$, where x_2 is a second state variable that is moderately correlated with x_1 . The thin dashed vector demonstrates the hazard of using local least squares fits when the observation variable y and the state variable x_1 are not functionally related.