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Ensemble Methods: Challenges Faced In and Lessons Learned From Practical Applications

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Outline

- History matching in oil and gas
- Implementation of ESMDA
- Probabilistic history matching example
- Deterministic history matching example
- Quantifying modeling error



History matching problem in the oil and gas industry

- Governing equations for subsurface oil and gas flow (mass conservation) $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\phi \rho_j S_j \right) - \nabla \cdot \left[\rho_j \lambda_j \mathbf{k} \left(\nabla p_j - \rho_j g \nabla D \right) \right] + q_j^w = 0$
- Reservoir simulations are driven by uncertainties, not chaotic behaviors
 - State: Pressure (p), saturation (S), ...
 - Observation (d): Production/injection data at the wells $(q), \ldots$
 - Uncertainties (m): Porosity (ϕ) and permeability (k) distribution, fluid mobility (λ), compressibility, geological structure, facies, fluid PVT ... Can be continuous or categorical
- History matching (a.k.a., data assimilation in petroleum engineering):
 - Calibrate the uncertainty parameters (m, usually non-Gaussian) to production history (d, usually nonlinear to m) to reduce uncertainty and improve accuracy in the forecast.





Probabilistic History Matching vs Deterministic History Matching

- Probabilistic history matching: Prior distribution in, posterior distribution out •
 - Popular methods: Design of experiment + proxy + Monte Carlo, ensemble methods
 - Does ensemble-based method provide reliable estimate of posterior uncertainty?



- Deterministic history matching: One model in, one model out ۲
 - Popular methods: Optimization-based algorithms such as the genetic algorithms and adjoint
 - Can ensemble-based method be used for deterministic history matching?







Parameter-Based vs Realization-Based Characterization

• Characterization of Uncertainties: Parameter-based vs Realization-based

Parameter-based*

Variables Description Minimum Maximum SORW OW rel. perm. end point 0.20.11 KRWRO $\mathbf{2}$ OW rel. perm. end point 0.6 0.93 KROCW OW rel. perm. end point 0.8 1 WEXP OW rel. perm. exponent 4 1 4 5OWEXP OW rel. perm. exponent 1 4 6 3E-06 4E-06 RCOMP Rock compressibility 7WOC Oil-water contact 557555808 PERM1 Layers 1–5 perm. multiplier 0.55PERM2 Layers 6–9 perm. multiplier 0.59 5 10PORO1 Layers 1–5 porosity multiplier 0.61.511 PORO2 Layers 6–9 porosity multiplier 0.851.15

• Challenge:

- Not all parameters are spatial
- How to incorporate modeling errors in parameterization

*He, Jincong, et al. "Quantifying expected uncertainty reduction and value of information using ensemble-variance analysis." SPE Journal 23.02 (2018): 428-448 © 2019 Chevron



**Peters, Lies, et al. "Results of the Brugge benchmark study for flooding optimization and history matching." *SPE Reservoir Evaluation & Engineering* 13.03 (2010): 391-405.



Realization-based characterization**

Comparison to Other Ensemble-Based Methods

- Ensemble Kalman filter (EnKF)
 - Cons: Difficult to implement; Unphysical update (e.g., negative saturation, see Dr. Pfander's talk); Inconsistent with governing equations



- Iterative ensemble smoother •
 - Pros: No need to update states; Use simulator as black box; Consistent with the governing equations

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Ensemble Smoother with Multiple Data Assimilation

ESMDA formula for uncertain parameter update (Emerick and Reynolds 2013)*



• α controls the step size of the update: It satisfies $\sum_{\alpha} \frac{1}{\alpha} = 1$

– Taking a journey in multiple steps to tackle nonlinearity

- It is proven that the final ensemble follows posterior uncertainty when
 - Linear-Gaussian problem with an infinite-sized ensemble
- Possible alternatives: D-ESMDA (Emerick 2018), EnRML (Raanes 2019, Chen and Oliver 2012)





*Emerick, Alexandre A., and Albert C. Reynolds. "Ensemble smoother with multiple data assimilation." Computers & Geosciences 55 (2013): 3-15.

Localization

- Kalman gain could suffer from spurious correlations that lead to ensemble collapse •
- Factors that seem to aggravate the ensemble collapse •
 - (1) Small ensemble size, (2) Large number of (redundant) data point, (3) Small degree of freedom
 - (4) Error/tolerance too small, (5) Simulation response inconsistent with the data
- Practical requirement for the location scheme ۲
 - Simple: Minimal user input, minimal information needed
 - Robust: Able to handle different type of uncertainties/data; Adaptive and self-learning
- Recent work ۲
 - Correlation-based adaptive localization (Zhang and Oliver, 2010; Anderson, 2016; Luo et al. 2018)
 - A comprehensive review and comparison (Chen and Oliver, 2016)



Bootstrap-Based Localization

- Ideas: Dampen inconsistent elements in the Kalman as identified by bootstrap sampling •
- Procedures \bullet
 - Original Kalman gain: $K = C_{md}^n (C_{dd}^n + \alpha_n C_e^n)^{-1}$
 - Step 1. Perform bootstrap sampling on the original ensemble to create n_h bootstrapped ensembles
 - Step 2. For each bootstrapped ensemble calculate the Kalman gain matrix
 - Step 3. Calculate the mean and variance of each Kalman gain elements across all bootstrapped ensembles
 - Step 4. Dampen elements of the original Kalman gain according to level of inconsistency

$$\boldsymbol{K}_{ij}^{s} = \frac{1}{1 + 4\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{K_{ij}}^{2}/\boldsymbol{\overline{K}}_{ij}^{2}}\boldsymbol{K}_{ij}$$

*Zhang, Y. and Oliver, D. (2010). Improving the ensemble estimate of the Kalman gain by bootstrap sampling, Math Geosci, 42, 327-345.



Efficient Calculation of Kalman Gain

• Bootstrap-based localization requires repeated calculating of Kalman gain

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{C}_{md}^n (\mathbf{C}_{dd}^n + \alpha_n \mathbf{C}_e^n)^{-1}$$

- When the number of data (n_d) is smaller (e.g., $n_d < 500$)
 - If n_d is the smallest among n_d , n_m and n_r
 - Calculate the inverse directly
 - If n_m is the smallest among n_d , n_m and n_r
 - Solve n_m linear equations $(C_{dd}^n + \alpha_n C_e^n)K = C_{md}^n$
 - If n_r is the smallest among n_d , n_m and n_r
 - Solve n_r linear equations $(C_{dd}^n + \alpha_n C_e^n)X = D$, then $K = \frac{1}{n_r 1}MX$
- When the number of data (n_d) is large
 - Use the subspace method*

*Emerick, A.A., 2016. Analysis of the performance of ensemblebased assimilation of production and seismic data. *Journal of Petroleum Science and Engineering*, *139*, pp.219-239.



Subspace Method

• Need to efficiently evaluate Kalman gain

$$\boldsymbol{K} = \boldsymbol{C}_{MD}^n (\boldsymbol{C}_{DD}^n + \alpha_n \boldsymbol{C}_e^n)^{-1}$$

- Procedure of the subspace method*
 - Scale the data with error (matrix *S*)
 - Perform SVD on data, only keep significant components ($D = U_r W_r V_r^T$)
 - Perform SVD on the error term to diagonalize it (matrix H_r)
 - Use pseudo inverse instead of actual inverse

$$(\boldsymbol{C}_{DD}^{n} + \alpha_{n} \boldsymbol{C}_{e}^{n})^{-1} \approx (N_{e} - 1) \boldsymbol{S}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{W}_{r}^{-1} \boldsymbol{Z}_{r} [\boldsymbol{I}_{r} + \boldsymbol{H}_{r}]^{-1} (\boldsymbol{S}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{W}_{r}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{W}_{r}^{-1} \boldsymbol{Z}_{r} [\boldsymbol{I}_{r} + \boldsymbol{H}_{r}]^{-1} (\boldsymbol{S}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{W}_{r}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{W}_{r}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{W}_{r}^{-1} \boldsymbol{U}_{r} \boldsymbol{$$

- Not necessarily good approximation of the original problem (See Dr. Raanes's talk)
- It is more robust and an enabling method for the bootstrap-based localization

*Emerick, A.A., 2016. Analysis of the performance of ensemblebased assimilation of production and seismic data. Journal of Petroleum Science and Engineering, 139, pp.219-239.



$W_r^{-1}Z_r)^T$

ESMDA for Probabilistic History Matching

- ESMDA is proven to sample the posterior correctly in idealized scenarios
- How would the method perform for probabilistic history matching for semi-realistic cases •







Example 1. Synthetic Problem with the Brugge Reservoir Model*

- Uncertainty parameters (92 parameters)
 - Reservoir divided into 30 regions
 - Horizontal permeability multiplier (k_h)
 - Vertical permeability multiplier (k_n)
 - Pore volume multipliers (PV)
 - Two dummy variables



Synthetic Brugge waterflood problem

- Independent of other uncertainties, have no impact on the simulation results ____
- Use to detect ensemble collapse and evaluate uncertainty analysis quality
- Data to assimilate
 - 10 years of production from 30 wells
 - Well oil production rate (OPR) and bottom-hole pressure (BHP), (700+ points)
 - 100-sized ensemble and 4 iterations are used in ESMDA



*Peters, Lies, et al. "Results of the Brugge benchmark study for flooding optimization and history matching." SPE Reservoir Evaluation & Engineering 13.03 (2010): 391-405.

Results with $N_e = 100$ and **No Localization**

• All data from all wells, concatenated together





Change in Dummy Parameters



- ullet
- ullet



Change in dummy parameters shows collapse of the ensemble

Just looking at one dummy parameter is not enough

Localization Helps

• All data from all wells, concatenated together

w/o localization

w/localization

200

simulatedObs_iter5

400

Data Point simulations 🛛 😑 observed data

simulatedObs_iter5







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Change in Dummy Parameters w/ Localization



- but not fully eliminated
- larger ensemble
- Dr. Bjarkason

| Mean Shift | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Uncertainty reduction | |



• Ensemble collapse is alleviated

• Could be further improved with

Current implementation not reliable for probabilistic forecast

See talks by Dr. Aanonsen and

| Dummy 1 | Dummy 2 |
|---------|---------|
| -0.2 | 0.08 |
| 66% | 40.9% |

ESMDA for Deterministic History Matching

- Input: A base model with proper parameterization of uncertainties
- Output: An improved model that better matches the history with minimal update •
- Challenge: How to select the "improved model" from the final iteration







Improved model

ESMDA for Deterministic History Matching

- Challenge: How to select the "improved model" from the final iteration
 - Option 1. Choose the one with the best match...Could be overfitting
 - Option 2. Take the mean of the ensemble...Violate statistics
 - Option 3. Choose base on P50 of the prediction...Still could be overfitting







ESMDA for Deterministic History Matching (Model Maturation)

- Challenge: How to select the "improved model" from the final iteration
 - Option 4. Include the base model in the prior ensemble, choose the corresponding posterior model









Example 2: ESMDA for Deterministic History Matching

General model maturation workflow •



- History matching the permeability(\mathbf{k}) and porosity ($\boldsymbol{\phi}$) field in Reservoir X
 - -8 million active cells. 16 million uncertainty parameters in total
 - Ensemble generated by perturbation upon the base model through sequential Gaussian simulation
 - Data to match: Well BHP at one of the producers





Select updated model from posterior ensemble

History Matching Quality

- 200-sized ensemble and 5 iterations are used
- A total of 1200 simulations are run





ESMDA for Deterministic History Matching

Due to the embedment of the base model in the ensemble, the update from the base model is • minimized and locally contained.





ESMDA for Deterministic History Matching

- Update is mostly confined to relevant area identified by ESMDA, localization working
- Possible spurious update could be alleviated by (a) Manually limit update to area of interest, (b) increase ensemble size





Grid-Based Model Update from ESMDA vs Adjoint

- Both ESMDA and Adjoint identify similar areas to update
- ESMDA also identifies areas based on prior correlation/continuity, while Adjoint does not ٠
- Adjoint is free of spurious update





Example 3: History Matching with Parameter-Based Uncertainty

- Fluvial reservoir with parameter-based uncertainty characterization ٠
- 86 regions with 546 uncertainties to match 3 years of data from 6 wells ٠
 - Regional: k, kvkh, pv, cut-off; Global: PVT, initial GOR, fluid contacts
 - Facies: Rel. Perm.; Well/Completions: PI, PI degradation
 - Regions defined based on drainage area and seismic
- ESMDA was able to match data not covered by prior ensemble
- Uncertainty reduction makes sense qualitatively but not reliable • quantitatively







Prior and posterior parameter distributions

Summary

- Lesson Learned: •
 - ESMDA does not work well with categorical uncertainties
 - ESMDA can be applied for both parameter-based and realization-based uncertainty characterization
 - Dummy variable can be used to validate/invalidate the uncertainty quantification
- Challenge faced •
 - When used for probabilistic history matching, ESMDA still suffer ensemble collapse even with localization in addition to nonlinearity of the problem, making it unreliable for uncertainty quantification
 - When used for deterministic history matching, it is an open question as to how to select one model



Outline

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- Implementation of ESMDA
- Probabilistic history matching example
- Deterministic history matching example
- Quantifying modeling error



Formulating the Error

• Result of any probabilistic history matching method heavily depend on the error

$$m_i^{n+1} = m_i^n + C_{md}^n (C_{dd}^n + \alpha_n C_e^n)^{-1} [d_i^n - (d_{obs}^n)^{-1}]$$

- Four concepts of data
 - Simulated data (\tilde{d}) , observation data (d), true response (\hat{d}) and observed data (d_{obs})
 - Measurement error: $\mathbf{e}_{me} = d \hat{d}$
 - For example, gauge accuracy, indirect measurement
 - Modeling error: $\mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{mo}} = \widehat{d} \widetilde{d}$
 - For example, uncaptured physics, missing small scale uncertainty
- Quantifying error
 - Physics-based: Identify the major sources of error and analyze them one-by-one
 - Data-driven: Quantify error based on inconsistency between observed data and simulated data
 - Cons: No inconsistency does not mean no error •



$+ e_{i}^{n}$

Modeling Error due to Omission of Local Variation

- Local and global variation:
 - Static uncertainty routinely characterized by long range uncertainty (multipliers)
 - Learning from local data may be falsely generalized to the full-field _____
 - This leads to overestimated S-curve update during history matching



Global variation



Global + Local variation



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Example Problem

- **1D primary production problem** (1001 grids)
 - Data: BHP at the producer at 100 days
 - Porosity field: $\phi = \phi_g + \phi_l$ —
 - Objective function: Original oil in place ($OOIP = \sum_i \phi_i S_{oi} V_i$)

600 100 200 300 400 500 700 800 900 1D toy reservoir, porosity is shown

producer

- Coarse uncertainty characterization (global only)
 - Global porosity multiplier ~N(0.25,0.03)
- Fine uncertainty characterization (global + local) ۲
 - Global porosity multiplier ~N(0.25,0.03) —
 - Local porosity variation $\sim N(0,0.0.5)$ & variogram=1500 ft



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S-Curve Update with Coarse Model

- Rejection sampling is used with measured BHP (3100 psi)
- Little OOIP uncertainty left with 50 psi of measurement error lacksquare





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S-Curve Update with Fine Model

- Spread of data to OOIP substantially increased
- Local ϕ variation has no impact for prior OOIP CDF, while large impact for posterior distribution.





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Problem Formulation

Assumption: Objective function *J* is global, not affected by local param. variation •

$$J_f = J(\boldsymbol{m}_g + \boldsymbol{m}_l) = J(\boldsymbol{m}_g) = J_c = J$$

- Distribution of samples from fine characterization: $P(J, d_f)$
- Distribution of samples from coarse characterization: $P(I, d_c)$ \bullet
- Bayes rule for posterior distribution $P((J, d)|d_{obs})$

$$P((J,d)|d_{obs}) = P(J,d) \frac{P(d_{obs}|(J,d))}{P(d_{obs})}$$

Rejection sampling using coarse model

$$P_{acc} = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(d - d_{obs})^T \Sigma_e^{-1}(d - d_{obs})\right)$$



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Modeling Error and Correction Factor

Fine characterization data

$$d_{obs} = d_f + e_{me}$$

Coarse characterization data \bullet

$$d_{obs} = d_c + e_{mo} + e_{me}$$

Rejection sampling using fine model •

$$P_{acc} = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(d_f - d_{obs}\right)^T \Sigma_{me}^{-1}\left(d_f - d_{obs}\right)\right)$$

Rejection sampling using coarse model

$$P_{acc} = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(d_{c} - d_{obs})^{T}(\Sigma_{mo} + \Sigma_{me})^{-1}(d_{c} - d_{obs})\right)$$

Modeling error and inflation factor τ •

$$\Sigma_{mo} = (\Sigma_{dd})_f - (\Sigma_{dd})_c = \tau(\Sigma_{dd})_c$$

Modeling error is proportional to variance in the simulated data •



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Derivation for Correction Factor

Analytical formula for correction factor τ

$$\tau_{d_1 d_2} = \frac{\int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} f_1(\mathbf{x}_i) C_l(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) f_2(\mathbf{x}_j) d\mathbf{x}_i d\mathbf{x}_j}{\int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} f_1(\mathbf{x}_i) C_g(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) f_2(\mathbf{x}_j) d\mathbf{x}_i d\mathbf{x}_j}$$

 $f_i(x)$: How sensitive is data d_i to uncertain properties at location x $C(x_i, x_i)$: How correlated are uncertain properties at location x_i and x_i

Empirical formula from regression of numerical solution

$$\tau_{dd} = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \left(\frac{1}{2(\gamma+1)^2} + \frac{1}{2(\gamma+1)} \right)$$

Formula for 1D problem
$$\tau_{dd} = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \exp\left(-0.8 \left(\frac{\lambda}{\rho}\right)^{0.9}\right)$$

Formula for 2D isotropic problem Formula for



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r 2D a

$$\left(\frac{1}{0.4\gamma_y+1}\right)^{1.5}$$

What Controls Correction Factor

Formula for 2D isotropic problem from regression of numerical solutions

$$\tau_{dd} = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \exp\left(-0.8 \left(\frac{\lambda}{\rho}\right)^{0.9}\right)$$

 $\sigma_{\underline{m,l}}^2$ Strength of local variation compared with the global variation

Strong local variation -> large modeling error

- Data detection range λ : \bullet
 - Small λ -> large modeling error
- Variogram range ρ : \bullet
 - Small ρ -> small modeling error
 - Local assumption: $\rho <<$ reservoir size





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Case 1. Single Well Measurement with 1D Problem

- Measuring well BHP to calibrate OOIP
 - Global porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,c} = 0.03$
 - Local porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,f} = 0.05$; $\rho = 4000 ft$ ____
 - Detection range: $\lambda = 1500 ft$, simulation BHP in std: $\Sigma_{dd,c}$ = 280 psi
- Modeling error $\frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,r}^2} \left(\frac{1}{2(\gamma+1)^2} + \frac{1}{2(\gamma+1)} \right) < \Sigma_{dd,c}$ is 478 psi in std.



200

300

400



| 600 | 700 | 800 | 900 | 1000 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|

Case 2. Single Well Consecutive Measurement

- Measuring well BHP at 100 day and 200 day
 - Global porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,c} = 0.03$
 - Local porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,f} = 0.05$; $\rho = 4000 ft$
- Modeling error for the two data points are <u>highly correlated</u>





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Case 3. Measurements from Two Different Wells

- Measuring well BHP at 100 day and 200 day
 - Global porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,c} = 0.03$
 - Local porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,f} = 0.05$; $\rho = 4000 ft$
- Modeling error for the two data points are weakly correlated









Case 4. 2D Isotropic Variogram Example

- Global porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,c} = 0.03$
- Local porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,f} = 0.05$; $\rho_x = \rho_y = 1500 ft$
- Data detection range: $\lambda = 2500 ft$ ullet

$$\tau_{dd} = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \exp\left(-0.8 \left(\frac{\lambda}{\rho}\right)^{0.9}\right)$$

Formula for 2D isotropic problem





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)
$$\times 10^8$$



Case 5. 2D Anisotropic Variogram Example

- Global porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,c} = 0.03$
- Local porosity component: $\sigma_{\phi,f} = 0.05$; $\rho_x = 2000 ft$; $\rho_y = 1500 ft$
- Data detection range: $\lambda_x = 10000 ft; \lambda_v = 5000 ft$

$$\tau_a = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \left(\frac{1}{0.4\gamma_x + 1}\right)^{1.5} \left(\frac{1}{0.4\gamma_y + 1}\right)^{1.5}$$

Formula for 2D anisotropic problem





Case 6. Extension to Multiple Random Fields

Correction factor approximated as convex combination of those for individual fields •

$$\hat{\tau}_{total} = w_{\phi}\tau_{\phi} + w_{\zeta}\tau_{\zeta}$$

- Random field for porosity: Global ~ N(0.25,0.03); Local ~ N(0,0.04), $\rho = 4000 ft$
- Random field for permeability: Cloud transform from porosity with 0.71 correlation







- Calibrate of global objective function with local data when omitting of local variation leads to • over-estimated S-curve update
- The error incurred by this local-global effect depends on \bullet
 - Variance in the simulated data
 - Data detection range —
 - Ratio between variances of local and global variation
 - Variogram range of the local variation
- Local-global modeling error can be highly correlated for different data points
- Formula for correction factor is proposed and validated •

$$\tau_{dd} = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \left(\frac{1}{2(\gamma+1)^2} + \frac{1}{2(\gamma+1)} \right)$$

Formula for 1D problem

$$\tau_{dd} = \frac{\sigma_{m,l}^2}{\sigma_{m,g}^2} \exp\left(-0.8 \left(\frac{\lambda}{\rho}\right)^{0.9}\right)$$

Formula for 2D isotropic problem

$$au_{a} = rac{\sigma_{m,l}^{2}}{\sigma_{m,g}^{2}} \left(rac{1}{0.4\gamma_{x}} - rac{1}{0.4\gamma_{x}} \right)$$



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Summary

- Strong interest from field engineers to use ensemble method for data assimilation
- Various types of problems
 - Parameter-based vs realization-based uncertainty characterization
 - Probabilistic vs deterministic history matching
- Final ensemble from ESMDA not always reliable for uncertainty quantification, even with ۲ localization
- Still an open question how to select the best posterior model in the deterministic history matching setting
- Parameter-based uncertainty characterization that omits local variation could lead to model error •
 - Such error is proportional to the data variance in the coarse characterization
 - Such error could be highly correlated for different data points
 - Such error could be estimated and corrected through numerical/empirical formula

