

Gaussian processes with inequality constraints: theory and computation

François Bachoc¹, Nicolas Durrande², Agnès Lagnoux¹, Andrés Felipe Lopez Lopera³, Olivier Roustant¹

¹Institut de Mathématiques de Toulouse

²Monumo (Cambridge)

³Université de Valenciennes

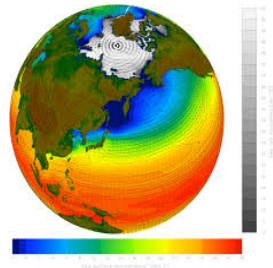
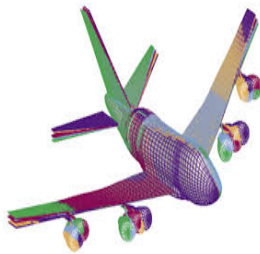
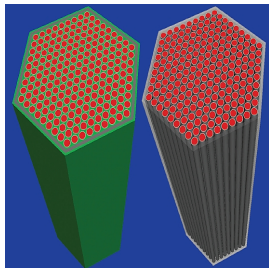
Rutgers Statistics Seminar

April 2024

- 1 Gaussian processes (without inequality constraints)
- 2 Gaussian processes under inequality constraints
- 3 **Theory** : maximum likelihood under inequality constraints
- 4 **Computation** : finite-dimensional approximation and MaxMod algorithm
- 5 **Theory** : convergence of the MaxMod algorithm

Motivation : computer models

Computer models have become essential in science and industry !



For clear reasons : cost reduction, possibility to explore hazardous or extreme scenarios...

A computer model can be seen as a deterministic function

$$f: \mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$
$$x \mapsto f(x).$$

- x : tunable simulation parameter (e.g. geometry).
- $f(x)$: scalar quantity of interest (e.g. energetic efficiency).

The function f is usually

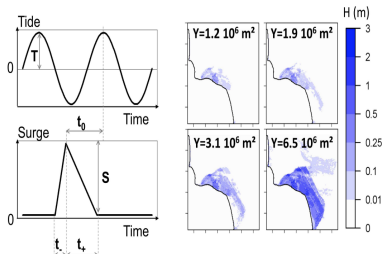
- continuous (at least)
- non-linear
- only available through evaluations $x \mapsto f(x)$.

⇒ **Black box model.**

Follow-along example : coastal flooding

Figures from [\[Azzimonti et al., 2019\]](#).

Hydrodynamic numerical simulations made by BRGM [\[Rohmer et al., 2018\]](#).



■ Input x with $d = 5$.

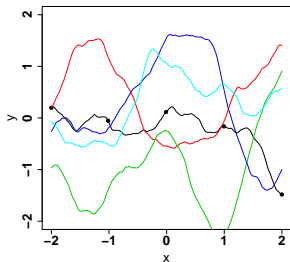
- : Tide (meter).
- : Surge peak (meter).
- : Phase difference between surge peak and high tide (hour).
- : Time duration of raising part of surge (hour).
- : Time duration of falling part of surge (hour).

■ Output $f(x)$.

- Maximal flooding area (m^2).
- 1 hour simulation time.

Gaussian processes (Kriging model)

Modeling the **black box function** as a **single realization** of a **Gaussian process**
 $x \rightarrow \xi(x)$ on the domain $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$.



Usefulness

Predicting the continuous realization function, from a finite number of **observation points**.

Remark : Gaussian processes are widely used in **geostatistics** as well.

Definition

A stochastic process $\xi : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is Gaussian if for any $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{X}$, the vector $(\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n))$ is a Gaussian vector.

Mean and covariance functions

The distribution of a Gaussian process is characterized by :

- Its **mean function** :

$$x \mapsto m(x) = \mathbb{E}(\xi(x)).$$

- Can be any function $\mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- Will be the **zero** function throughout this talk!

- Its **covariance function** :

$$(x_1, x_2) \mapsto k(x_1, x_2) = \text{Cov}(\xi(x_1), \xi(x_2)).$$

- Must be symmetric non-negative definite (to provide “valid” covariance matrices).

Conditional distribution

Gaussian process ξ observed at x_1, \dots, x_n , without noise.

Notation

- $y = (\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n))^{\top}$.
- R is the $n \times n$ matrix $[k(x_i, x_j)]$.
- $r(x) = (k(x, x_1), \dots, k(x, x_n))^{\top}$.

Conditional mean

The conditional mean is $m_n(x) = \mathbb{E}(\xi(x)|\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n)) = r(x)^{\top} R^{-1} y$.

Conditional variance

The conditional variance is $k_n(x, x) = \text{var}(\xi(x)|\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n)) = \mathbb{E} [(\xi(x) - m_n(x))^2] = k(x, x) - r(x)^{\top} R^{-1} r(x)$.

Conditional distribution

Conditionally to $\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n)$, ξ is a Gaussian process with (conditional) mean function m_n and (conditional) covariance function $(u, v) \mapsto k_n(u, v) = k(u, v) - r(u)^{\top} R^{-1} r(v)$.

Illustration of conditional mean and variance

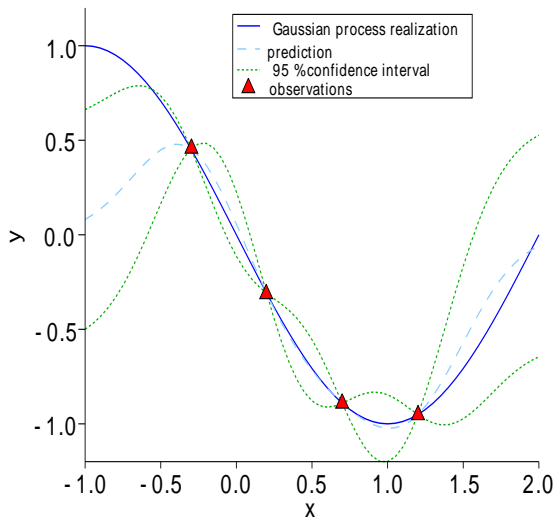
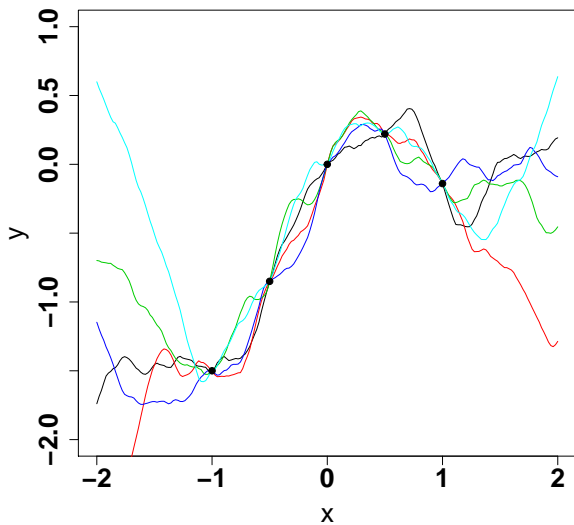


Illustration of the conditional distribution



Parameterization

Covariance function model $\{k_\theta, \theta \in \Theta\}$ for the Gaussian process ξ .

- $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^p$.
- θ is the multidimensional covariance parameter.
- k_θ is a covariance function.

Observations

ξ is observed at $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{X}$, yielding the Gaussian vector $y = (\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n))^\top$.

Estimation

Objective : build estimator $\hat{\theta}(y)$.

Maximum likelihood (ML) for estimation

Explicit **Gaussian likelihood** function for the observation vector y .

Maximum likelihood

Define R_θ as the covariance matrix of $y = (\xi(x_1), \dots, \xi(x_n))^T$ with covariance function $k_\theta : R_\theta = [k_\theta(x_i, x_j)]_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$.

The maximum likelihood estimator of θ is

$$\hat{\theta}_{ML} \in \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{L}_n(\theta)$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}_n(\theta) = \log(p_\theta(y)) = \log \left(\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |R_\theta|} e^{-\frac{1}{2} y^T R_\theta^{-1} y} \right).$$

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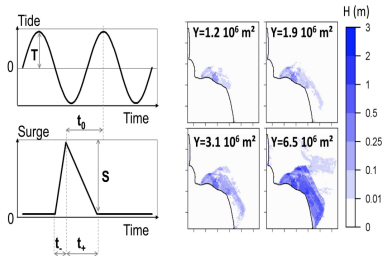
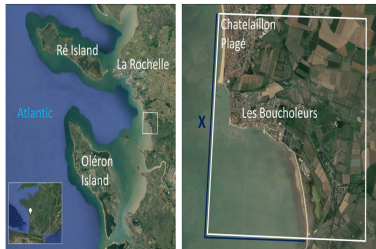
We consider a **Gaussian process** ξ on $\mathbb{X} = [0, 1]^d$ for which we assume that additional information is available.

- $\xi(x)$ belongs to $[\ell, u]$ for $x \in [0, 1]^d$ (**boundedness constraints**).
- $\partial\xi(x)/\partial x_i \geq 0$ for $x \in [0, 1]^d$ and $i = 1, \dots, d$ (**monotonicity constraints**).
- ξ is convex on $[0, 1]^d$ (**convexity constraints**).
- Modifications and/or combinations of the above constraints.

Application examples in **computer experiments**.

- **Boundedness** : computer model output belongs to \mathbb{R}^+ (energy) or $[0, 1]$ (concentration, energetic efficiency).
- **Monotonicity** : inputs are known to have positive effects (more input power \rightarrow more output energy).

Coastal flooding : the constraints



■ Input x .

- : Tide (meter). **Output increases when tide increases !**
- : Surge peak (meter). **Output increases when surge increases !**
- : Phase difference between surge peak and high tide (hours).
- : Time duration of raising part of surge (hours).
- : Time duration of falling part of surge (hours).

■ Output $f(x)$.

- Maximal flooding area (m^2).

Generic form of the constraints :

$$\xi \in \mathcal{E}$$

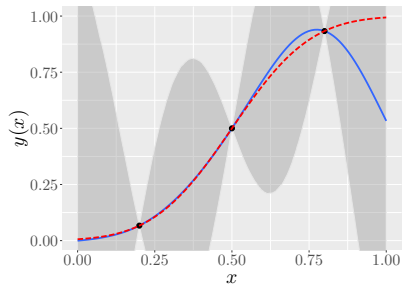
where \mathcal{E} is a set of functions from $[0, 1]^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $P(\xi \in \mathcal{E}) > 0$.

Impact.

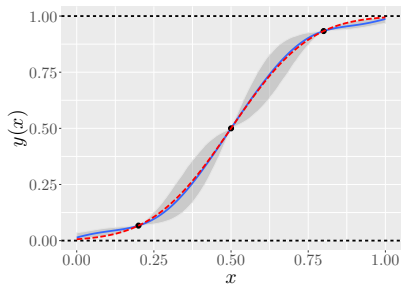
- **New Bayesian model** : The prior on the realization function is $P(\xi \in \cdot | \xi \in \mathcal{E})$.
- **New conditional distribution** : Conditional distribution of ξ given
 - $\xi(x_1) = y_1, \dots, \xi(x_n) = y_n$ (data interpolation),
 - $\xi \in \mathcal{E}$ (inequality constraints).
- **New estimation** of the covariance parameters θ in the covariance model $\{k_\theta; \theta \in \Theta\}$.

Illustration of constraint benefits

Target function : bounded and monotonic.



Unconstrained Gaussian process.



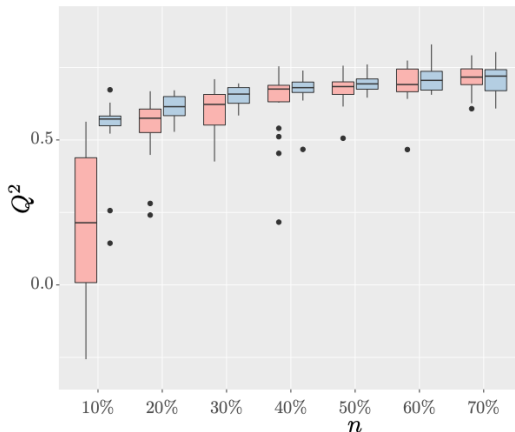
Constrained Gaussian process.

- true function
- training points
- predictive mean
- confidence intervals

Results on coastal flooding example

Gaussian process predictive score.

- Without constraints.
- With constraints.



The Q^2 (≤ 1) measures the prediction quality,

- $Q^2 = 1$: perfect prediction,
- $Q^2 = 0$: no better than constant prediction.

An application to nuclear engineering

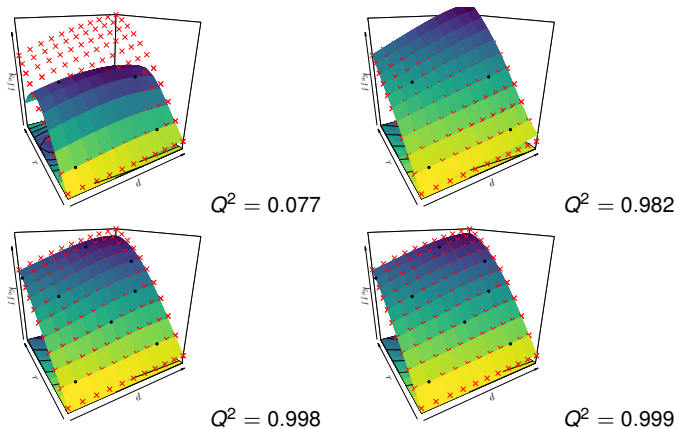


Figure – Two-dimensional nuclear engineering example.

Radius and density of uranium sphere \implies **criticality coefficient**.

Mononicity constraints.

- Left : unconstrained Gaussian process models.
- Right : constrained Gaussian process models.

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Constrained maximum likelihood estimator

The constrained maximum likelihood estimator for θ is

$$\hat{\theta}_{cML} \in \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{L}_{c,n}(\theta)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{c,n}(\theta) &= \log(p_{\theta}(y|\xi \in \mathcal{E})) \\ &= \log(p_{\theta}(y)) - \log(\mathbb{P}_{\theta}(\xi \in \mathcal{E})) + \log(\mathbb{P}_{\theta}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}|y)). \end{aligned}$$

- The additional terms $\log(\mathbb{P}_{\theta}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}))$ and $\log(\mathbb{P}_{\theta}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}|y))$ have no explicit expressions.
- They need to be approximated by numerical integration or Monte Carlo : [Genz, 1992, Botev, 2017].
- We do not address this approximation issue in this theory section (see next computation section).

Main questions :

- $\hat{\theta}_{ML}$ ignores the constraints. Is it biased conditionally to the constraints ?
 - For instance if $\hat{\theta}_{ML}$ is the variance estimator, if the true variance is 4 and if the constraints are $\xi \in [-1, 1]$, does $\hat{\theta}_{ML}$ underestimate the variance ?
- Does $\hat{\theta}_{cML}$ improve over $\hat{\theta}_{ML}$ by taking the constraints into account ?

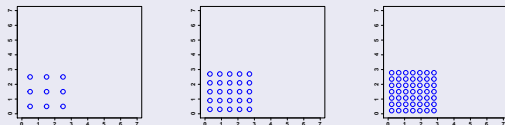
We address these questions **asymptotically**.

Fixed-domain asymptotics with fixed constraints

- Asymptotics (number of observations $n \rightarrow +\infty$) is an active area of research.
- Mostly without constraints.
- There are **several asymptotic frameworks** because there are several possible **location patterns** for the observation points.

Fixed-domain asymptotics

The observation points x_1, \dots, x_n are dense in a bounded domain.



Fixed constraints

Fixed constraint set \mathcal{E} with

$$\mathbb{P}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}) > 0.$$

- Consistent estimation is **impossible** for some covariance parameters (identifiable in finite-sample), see e.g. [Zhang, 2004, Stein, 1999].
 - Covariance parameters that yield **equivalent Gaussian measures** are called **non-microergodic**. They **cannot** be estimated consistently.
 - Covariance parameters that yield **orthogonal Gaussian measures** are called **microergodic**. They **can** be estimated consistently.
- For instance, consider the set of covariance functions $\{k_\theta, \theta \in (0, \infty)^2\}$ on $[0, 1]$ given by $\theta = (\sigma^2, \alpha)$ and $k_\theta(t_1, t_2) = \sigma^2 e^{-\alpha|t_1 - t_2|}$.
 - σ^2 is non-microergodic.
 - α is non-microergodic.
 - $\sigma^2 \alpha$ is microergodic.

Some initial properties

Let $\theta_0 \in \Theta$ such that $k = k_{\theta_0}$ (true covariance parameter).

- A non-microergodic parameter cannot be estimated consistently conditionally to the constraints.
 - Has a short proof using that $\mathbb{P}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}) > 0$ is fixed.
- If $\hat{\theta}_{ML} - \theta_0 = O_{\mathbb{P}}(n^{-1/2})$ then $\hat{\theta}_{ML} - \theta_0 = O_{\mathbb{P}|\xi \in \mathcal{E}}(n^{-1/2})$ which means

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P} \left(\sqrt{n} \|\hat{\theta}_{ML} - \theta_0\| \geq M \mid \xi \in \mathcal{E} \right) \xrightarrow{M \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

- Holds because

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} \left(\sqrt{n} \|\hat{\theta}_{ML} - \theta_0\| \geq M \mid \xi \in \mathcal{E} \right) &= \frac{1}{\mathbb{P}(\xi \in \mathcal{E})} \mathbb{P} \left(\sqrt{n} \|\hat{\theta}_{ML} - \theta_0\| \geq M, \xi \in \mathcal{E} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\mathbb{P}(\xi \in \mathcal{E})} \mathbb{P} \left(\sqrt{n} \|\hat{\theta}_{ML} - \theta_0\| \geq M \right) \end{aligned}$$

and $\mathbb{P}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}) > 0$ is fixed.

- \implies Rate of convergence is preserved with constraints.
- \implies What about asymptotic distribution ?

Setting :

- Gaussian process ξ on $[0, 1]^d$.
- Monotonicity, boundedness or convexity constraints.
- Observation point sequence $(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ is dense in $[0, 1]^d$.
- $\theta = \sigma^2$ and $k_\theta(u_1, u_2) = \sigma^2 \tilde{k}(u_1, u_2)$, for some fixed \tilde{k} .
- True covariance function $k = \sigma_0^2 \tilde{k}$.

Asymptotic normality without constraints

- It is well-known that in this case

$$\sqrt{n} \left(\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 - \sigma_0^2 \right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{N}(0, 2\sigma_0^4).$$

Asymptotic normality result 1 : variance estimation

Notation (convergence in distribution given the constraints) : we write

$$X_n \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathcal{L}|\xi \in \mathcal{E}} L$$

when for all bounded measurable function f :

$$\mathbb{E}(f(X_n)|\xi \in \mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \int f(x)dL(x).$$

Theorem [Bachoc et al., 2019]

Under technical conditions on k and the sequence $(x_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ (see paper), we have

$$\sqrt{n} \left(\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 - \sigma_0^2 \right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathcal{L}|\xi \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{N}(0, 2\sigma_0^4)$$

and

$$\sqrt{n} \left(\hat{\sigma}_{cML}^2 - \sigma_0^2 \right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathcal{L}|\xi \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{N}(0, 2\sigma_0^4).$$

- Same asymptotic distribution as the (unconstrained) maximum likelihood estimator, in the unconstrained case.
- No asymptotic impact of the constraints.

Asymptotic normality result 2 : Matérn model

Setting :

- Gaussian process ξ on $[0, 1]^d$, $d = 1, 2, 3$, with covariance function k .
- Monotonicity, boundedness or convexity constraints.
- Observation point sequence $(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ is dense in $[0, 1]^d$.
- $\theta = (\sigma^2, \rho) \in (0, \infty)^2$ and

$$k_{\theta, \nu}(x, x') = \sigma^2 K_{\nu} \left(\frac{\|x - x'\|}{\rho} \right) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\Gamma(\nu) 2^{\nu-1}} \left(\frac{\|x - x'\|}{\rho} \right)^{\nu} \kappa_{\nu} \left(\frac{\|x - x'\|}{\rho} \right).$$

- Γ is the Gamma function.
- κ_{ν} is the modified Bessel function of the second kind.
- $\nu > 0$ (assumed known) is the smoothness parameter : $\nu > r \implies$ corresponding Gaussian process if r times differentiable.
- True covariance function $k = k_{\theta_0, \nu}$, $\theta_0 = (\sigma_0^2, \rho_0)$.

In this case :

- σ^2 is non-microergodic
- ρ is non-microergodic
- $\sigma^2 / \rho^{2\nu}$ is microergodic and

$$\sqrt{n} \left(\begin{array}{c} \widehat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 \\ \widehat{\rho}_{ML}^{2\nu} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \sigma_0^2 \\ \rho_0^{2\nu} \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{\mathcal{L}} \mathcal{N} \left(0, 2 \left(\begin{array}{c} \sigma_0^2 \\ \rho_0^{2\nu} \end{array} \right)^2 \right).$$

This is shown in [Kaufman and Shaby, 2013] using results from [Du et al., 2009, Wang and Loh, 2011].

Theorem [Bachoc et al., 2019]

Under technical conditions on ν and the sequence $(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ (see paper), we have

$$\sqrt{n} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 - \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\rho_0^{2\nu}} \\ \hat{\rho}_{ML}^{2\nu} - \rho_0^{2\nu} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{\mathcal{L} | \xi \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{N} \left(0, 2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\rho_0^{2\nu}} \\ \rho_0^{2\nu} \end{pmatrix}^2 \right)$$

and

$$\sqrt{n} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\sigma}_{cML}^2 - \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\rho_0^{2\nu}} \\ \hat{\rho}_{cML}^{2\nu} - \rho_0^{2\nu} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow +\infty]{\mathcal{L} | \xi \in \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{N} \left(0, 2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\rho_0^{2\nu}} \\ \rho_0^{2\nu} \end{pmatrix}^2 \right).$$

- Same conclusions as for the estimation of a variance parameter.

An illustration

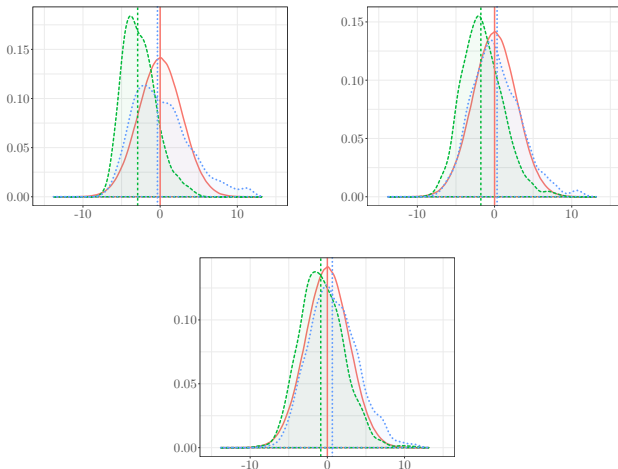


Figure – An example with the estimation of σ_0^2 with boundedness constraints. Distribution of $n^{1/2}(\hat{\sigma}^2 - \sigma_0^2)$. $n = 20$ (top left), $n = 50$ (top right) and $n = 80$ (bottom).

- Green : ML.
- Blue : cML.
- Red : Gaussian limit.

Some proof ideas : ML for the variance

When $k_\theta = \sigma^2 \tilde{k}$ and for boundedness constraint.

- Write the variance estimator as

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 &= \frac{\sigma_0^2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - \mathbb{E}[y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}])^2}{\text{Var}(y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1})} \\ &= \frac{\sigma_0^2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(y_i - \mathbb{E}[y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}])^2}{\text{Var}(y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1})} + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{n} \sum_{i=m+1}^n \frac{(y_i - \mathbb{E}[y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}])^2}{\text{Var}(y_i | y_1, \dots, y_{i-1})} \\ &:= A_m + B_{m,n}\end{aligned}$$

with fixed m and as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

- Approximate boundedness event by $\{y_i \in [\ell, u]; i = 1, \dots, m\}$.
- A_m is negligible as $n \rightarrow \infty$.
- Conditioning by approximated boundedness does not affect $B_{m,n}$ by independence so $\sqrt{n}(B_{m,n} - \sigma_0^2) \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, 2\sigma_0^4)$ also conditionally.
- Conclude by letting $m = m_n \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ slowly enough.
- Same method for monotonicity and convexity.

- Introduce **estimated variance with imposed correlation length**

$$\bar{\sigma}_n^2(\rho) \in \operatorname{argmax}_{\sigma^2 \in (0, \infty)} \mathcal{L}_n(\sigma^2, \rho).$$

- Then from [Kaufman and Shaby, 2013, Du et al., 2009, Wang and Loh, 2011], for $0 < \rho_l < \rho_u < \infty$,

$$\sup_{\rho_1, \rho_2 \in [\rho_l, \rho_u]} \left| \frac{\bar{\sigma}_n^2(\rho_1)}{\rho_1^{2\nu}} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}_n^2(\rho_2)}{\rho_2^{2\nu}} \right| = o_{\mathbb{P}}(1/\sqrt{n}).$$

- We conclude with the previous result for

$$\frac{\bar{\sigma}_n^2(\rho_0)}{\rho_0^{2\nu}}.$$

For boundedness constraint.

- We show that the two added terms in the constrained likelihood are negligible.
- For the unconditional constraints :

$$|\log(\mathbb{P}(\sigma_1 \xi \in \mathcal{E})) - \log(\mathbb{P}(\sigma_2 \xi \in \mathcal{E}))| \leq \text{Constant} \left| \sigma_1^2 - \sigma_2^2 \right|.$$

Using Tsirelson's theorem.

- For the conditional constraints :

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} |\log(\mathbb{P}_\theta(\xi \in \mathcal{E} | y))| = o_{\mathbb{P}|\xi \in \mathcal{E}}(1).$$

Because conditional constraint probability $\rightarrow 1$. More technical part. Using Borel-TIS inequality, and RKHS arguments for the Matérn case.

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Handling the constraints computationally

- For boundedness constraints, it is possible to consider models of the form $y_i = T(\xi(x_i))$ with T bijective from \mathbb{R} to $[\ell, u]$ and ξ a Gaussian process.
 - No computational problem.
- For monotonicity and convexity constraints, the model $P(\xi \in \cdot | \xi \in \mathcal{E})$ has become standard.
 - But the constraint $\xi \in \mathcal{E}$ needs to be approximated.
 - $\xi \in \mathcal{E}$ is replaced by a finite number of constraints on inducing points in [Da Veiga and Marrel, 2012, Golchi et al., 2015].

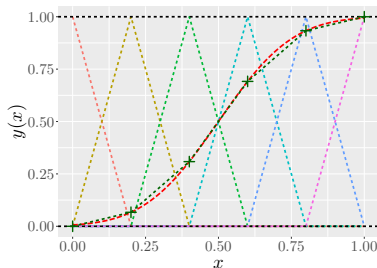
$$(\partial_i \xi)(s) \geq 0, s \in [0, 1]^d \quad \approx \quad (\partial_i \xi)(s_j) \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, m.$$

- ξ is replaced by a **finite-dimensional approximation** ξ_m in [López-Lopera et al., 2018, Maatouk and Bay, 2017].

In dimension 1, for $x \in [0, 1]$:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_m(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \xi(t_i) \phi_i(x) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \xi_m(t_i) \phi_i(x), \end{aligned}$$

- $0 = t_1 < \dots < t_m = 1$: **knots**,
- ϕ_i : **hat basis function** centered at t_i .



Finite-dimensional linear inequalities for the constraints

In dimension 1

■ Boundedness

ξ_m is bounded in $[\ell, u]$ on $[0,1] \iff \xi_m(t_i) \in [\ell, u]$ for $i = 1, \dots, m$.

■ Monotonicity

ξ_m is non-decreasing on $[0,1] \iff \xi_m(t_i) \leq \xi_m(t_{i+1})$ for $i = 1, \dots, m-1$.

In dimension d

■ Finite-dimensional approximation, for $u = (u_1, \dots, u_d) \in [0, 1]^d$,

$$\xi_m(u_1, \dots, u_d) = \sum_{i_1=1}^{m_1} \cdots \sum_{i_d=1}^{m_d} \xi_m(t_{i_1}^{(1)}, \dots, t_{i_d}^{(d)}) \phi_{i_1}^{(1)}(u_1) \cdots \phi_{i_d}^{(d)}(u_d),$$

- $(t_{i_1}^{(1)}, \dots, t_{i_d}^{(d)})$: multi-dimensional knot,
- $\phi_{i_1}^{(1)}(\cdot) \cdots \phi_{i_d}^{(d)}(\cdot)$: multi-dimensional hat basis function.

■ For boundedness, monotonicity, component-wise convexity :

$\xi_m \in \mathcal{E} \iff$ finite number of linear inequalities on $[\xi_m(t_{i_1}^{(1)}, \dots, t_{i_d}^{(d)})]_{i_1, \dots, i_d}$.

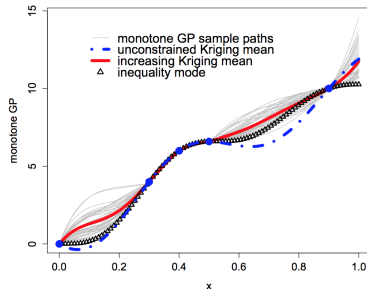
Mode and conditional distribution

In the frame of [López-Lopera et al., 2018, Maatouk and Bay, 2017].

⇒ Boils down to optimizing/sampling w.r.t. the **Gaussian vector**

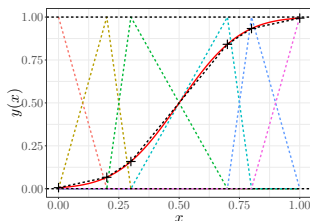
$$[\xi_m(t_{i_1}^{(1)}, \dots, t_{i_d}^{(d)})]_{i_1, \dots, i_d}.$$

- The **mode** is the “most likely” function for ξ_m , obtained by quadratic optimization with linear constraints.
- **Conditional realizations** of ξ_m can be sampled approximately, for instance by Hamiltonian Monte Carlo for truncated Gaussian vectors [Pakman and Paninski, 2014].



The MaxMod algorithm in 1d

Introduced in [\[Bachoc et al., 2022\]](#).



- Let \widehat{Y} be the mode function with an ordered set of knots :

$$\{t_1, \dots, t_m\}, \quad \text{with } 0 = t_1 < \dots < t_m = 1.$$

- Here, we aim at adding a new knot t (where?).
- To do so, we aim at *maximising the total modification of the mode* :

$$I(t) = \int_{[0,1]} \left(\widehat{Y}_{+t}(x) - \widehat{Y}(x) \right)^2 dx. \quad (1)$$

The integral in (1) has a closed-form expression.

1D example under boundedness and monotonicity constraints

We write the mode $\hat{Y} = Y^{\text{MAP}}$.

Mode

Conditional sample-path

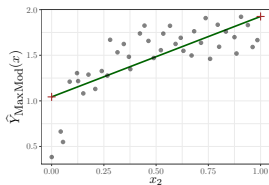
- Observation points
- + Knots
- Mode
- Predictive mean
- 90% confidence intervals

2D example under monotonicity constraints

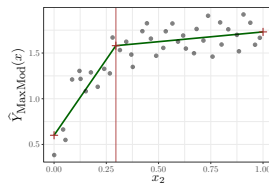
MaxMod in multiD

- Adding **new active variables** or adding **new knots** to active variables.

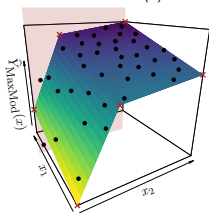
Figure – Evolution of the MaxMod algorithm using $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x_1 + \arctan(10x_2)$



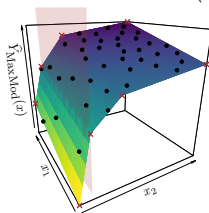
(a) iteration 0



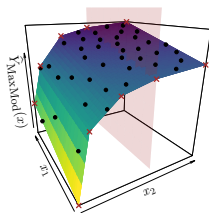
(b) iteration 1



(c) iteration 2



(d) iteration 3

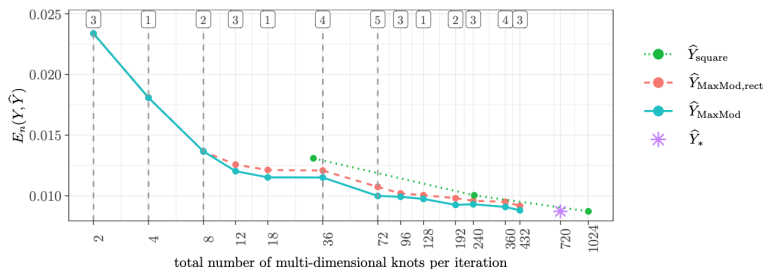


(e) iteration 4

- training points
- + knots
- mode

MaxMod results on coastal example

- $E_n(Y, \hat{Y})$: relative square error.
- \hat{Y}_{square} : regularly spaced knots, identical number per variable.
- $\hat{Y}_{\text{MaxMod,rect}}$: regularly spaced knots, numbers per variable given by MaxMod.
- \hat{Y}_* : optimized by hand in a previous study.



Approach	m	$E_n(Y, \hat{Y})$ [1×10^{-3}]	CPU time [s]		
			Training step	Computation of \hat{Y}	Sampling step with 100 realizations
\hat{Y}_{square}	1024	8.72	49.1	8.03	non converged after 1 day
\hat{Y}_{MaxMod}	432	8.81	949.5	0.58	108.72

- 1 Gaussian processes (without inequality constraints)
- 2 Gaussian processes under inequality constraints
- 3 **Theory** : maximum likelihood under inequality constraints
- 4 **Computation** : finite-dimensional approximation and MaxMod algorithm
- 5 **Theory** : convergence of the MaxMod algorithm

When the sequence of knots is **fixed** and **dense**

Setting :

- **Fixed** data set from now on.
- \mathcal{I} : set of functions interpolating the data set.
- For variable $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$: sequence of one-dimensional knots $t_1^{(j)}, \dots, t_{m_j}^{(j)}$ and $m_j \rightarrow \infty$. The sequence is **dense in $[0, 1]$** .
- The mode $\widehat{Y}_{m_1, \dots, m_d} : [0, 1]^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- Kernel k with corresponding RKHS \mathcal{H} of functions from $[0, 1]^d$ to \mathbb{R} .
- Inequality set \mathcal{C} of functions from $[0, 1]^d$ to \mathbb{R} .

Theorem [Bay et al., 2017, Bay et al., 2016]

Under some technical conditions

$$\widehat{Y}_{m_1, \dots, m_d} \rightarrow Y_{\text{opt}},$$

uniformly on $[0, 1]^d$, with

$$Y_{\text{opt}} = \underset{f \in \mathcal{H} \cap \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{I}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

Multiaffine extension

Definition

Let F_1, \dots, F_d be (general) closed subsets of $[0, 1]$ containing 0 and 1.

Let f be a continuous function on $F = F_1 \times \dots \times F_d$.

Then, there exists a *unique continuous extension of f on $[0, 1]^d$ such that any 1D marginal cut functions $u_i \mapsto f(u_i, t_{\sim i})$ is affine on intervals of $[0, 1] \setminus F_i$.*

Denoted $P_{F \rightarrow [0,1]^d}(f)$, it is obtained by **sequential 1D affine interpolations**.

$\Rightarrow P_{F \rightarrow [0,1]^d}(f)$ is called the **multiaffine extension** of f .

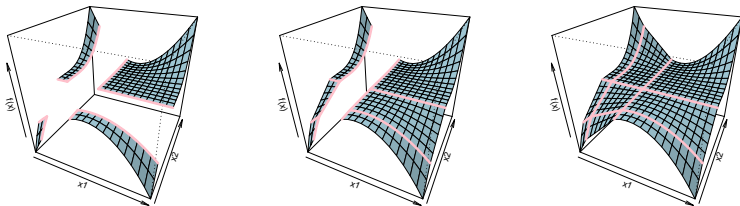


Figure – Sequential construction of the multiaffine extension (2D case).

Properties

- The multiaffine extension is expressed with 2^d neighbours as

$$P_{F \rightarrow [0,1]^d}(f)(u_1, \dots, u_d) = \sum_{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_d \in \{-, +\}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^d \omega_{\epsilon_j}(u_j) \right) f(u_1^{\epsilon_1}, \dots, u_d^{\epsilon_d}),$$

where u_j^- , u_j^+ are the closest left and right neighbours of u_j in F_j ,

$\omega_+(u_j) = \frac{u_j - u_j^-}{u_j^+ - u_j^-}$ if $u_j \notin F_j$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ otherwise, and $\omega_-(u_j) = 1 - \omega_+(u_j)$.

- It preserves boundedness, monotonicity and componentwise convexity.

The multi-affine extension for a **fixed** sequence of knots that is **not dense**

Setting :

- For variable $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$: sequence of one-dimensional knots $t_1^{(j)}, \dots, t_{m_j}^{(j)}$ and $m_j \rightarrow \infty$. The sequence has **closure** $F_j \subset [0, 1]$.

First approach : can we still find a limit function from $[0, 1]^d$ to \mathbb{R} ?

→ **Not successful** to stay on $[0, 1]^d$ here.

Instead : Work on $F := F_1 \times \dots \times F_d$ and define

- \mathcal{H}_F RKHS of k restricted to $F \times F$.
- \mathcal{C}_F : set of functions from F to \mathbb{R} which **multi-affine extensions** satisfy inequality constraints.
- \mathcal{I}_F : set of functions from F to \mathbb{R} which **multi-affine extensions** interpolate the data set.

Theorem [Bachoc et al., 2022]

Under some technical conditions

$$\widehat{Y}_{m_1, \dots, m_d} \rightarrow Y_{\text{opt}, F},$$

uniformly on F , with

$$Y_{\text{opt}, F} = \underset{f \in \mathcal{H}_F \cap \mathcal{C}_F \cap \mathcal{I}_F}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_F}.$$

As a consequence

$$\widehat{Y}_{m_1, \dots, m_d} \rightarrow P_{F \rightarrow [0, 1]^d} (Y_{\text{opt}, F}),$$

uniformly on $[0, 1]^d$.

- Mode $\hat{Y}_{\text{MaxMod},m}$ at iteration m of MaxMod.
- We add an **exploration reward** to MaxMod.

Theorem [Bachoc et al., 2022]

Under some technical conditions, as $m \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\hat{Y}_{\text{MaxMod},m} \rightarrow Y_{\text{opt}},$$

uniformly on $[0, 1]^d$, with

$$Y_{\text{opt}} = \underset{f \in \mathcal{H} \cap \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{I}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

Proof arguments :

⇒ let us show that sequence of knots is dense.

- As is common for algorithms maximizing acquisition functions (EGO,...), two ingredients :

- Show that acquisition function is **small** at points **close** to existing ones.
- Show that acquisition function is **large** at points **away** from existing ones.

- Here :

- Show that mode perturbation vanishes from $\hat{Y}_{\text{MaxMod},m}$ to $\hat{Y}_{\text{MaxMod},m+1}$ → **previous convergence result**.
- Acquisition function is large at points away from existing ones → the **exploration reward**.

Summary.

- Inequality constraints correspond to additional information (e.g. physical knowledge).
- Taking them into account can significantly improve the predictions.
- With a computational cost (explicit \implies Monte Carlo).
- Asymptotically, we do not see an impact of the constraints and $ML \approx \text{cML}$.
- MaxMod algorithm for higher dimension.

Main open question on likelihood theory.

- How to analyse asymptotically n -dependent constraints $\xi \in \mathcal{E}_n$ with

$$\mathbb{P}(\xi \in \mathcal{E}_n) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

- For instance boundedness with tighter and tighter bounds or monotonicity over larger and larger domains.
- Should yield more impacts of the constraints ?
- Previous proof techniques do not apply.






Subsequent and ongoing work on computation.

- **Additive** model and corresponding MaxMod : [López-Lopera et al., 2022].
- **Block additive** models and corresponding MaxMod : in preparation.

References.

- Constrained Gaussian processes : [[López-Lopera et al., 2018](#)].
- Constrained Maximum Likelihood : [[Bachoc et al., 2019](#)].
- MaxMod : [[Bachoc et al., 2022](#)].
- Extension of MaxMod for additive models : [[López-Lopera et al., 2022](#)].
- **R package LineqGPR** : <https://github.com/anfelopera/lineqGPR>.

Thank you for your attention !

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