

Transform-based Particle Filtering for Parameter Estimation in Reservoir Modeling

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Subsurface oil/gas reservoir



Subsurface flow

A simple 2D model for subsurface flow is a diffusion equation

$$-\nabla .(k(x)\nabla P(x))=g(x), \qquad x\in D\subseteq R^2$$

- k, the hydraulic conductivity of the subsurface,
- g, source/sink terms,
- P, the resulting pressure field of groundwater.

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Problem of Parameter estimation: Given limited observations of the pressure P(x), the aim is to estimate the unknown permeability k(x).

What is Data Assimilation?

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Mathematical model (Prior)

X = M(x)



Observations

$$y = h(X) + \varepsilon$$

Mathematical model (Prior)

$$X = M(x)$$





Data Assimilation

Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

• Requires very large number of realizations of a model (samples /ensemble members), which is computationally unaffordable for high-dimensional systems.

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Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF)

• EnKF became a standard data assimilation method in inverse modeling, though it assumes Gaussian probabilities which might not be always the case.

Evensen, G. (2006). Data Assimilation: The Ensemble Kalman Filter. Springer







$$p(x|y) = \sum_{i=1}^{M} w_i \delta(x - x_i)$$



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$$w_{i} = \frac{p(y|x_{i})}{\sum_{j=1}^{M} p(y|x_{j})}$$

Ensemble Transform Particle Filters (ETPF)



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S. Reich & C. Cotter. (2015). Probabilistic forecasting and data assimilation, Cambridge University Press.

Tempered Ensemble Transform Particle Filters (TETPF)

• Instead of jumping directly from prior to posterior, a smooth transition among the distribution can lead to stabilization of weights.

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S.Ruchi & S.Dubinkina (2018), S. Dubinkina & S. Ruchi (2018) and S. Ruchi, S. Dubinkina & M. Iglesias (2018)

Test Case: Bimodal probability



• We consider a channelized domain: a channel with different permeability is situated in the domain.

Test Case: Bimodal probability







Conclusions

Accurate estimations can be obtained by

- EnKF, when everything is Gaussian;
- MCMC, when everything is low-dimensional.
- TETPF, when everything is high-dimensional and non-Gaussian.

Questions?