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# *Accounting for Model Error in the Calibration of Physical Models*

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Proposed Approach
- 3 Model-to-model Calibration – no date noise
- 4 Model calibration with noisy data
- 5 Closure

# Motivation

- All models are wrong in principle
- Models of physical systems rely on
  - Presumed theoretical framework
  - Mathematical formulation
- Practical models of complex physical systems rely on
  - Simplifying assumptions
  - Numerical discretization of governing equations
  - Computational software & hardware
- model error is frequently non-negligible
- Estimating model error is useful for
  - model comparison & validation
  - model improvement & scientific discovery
  - reliable computational predictions

# Statistical modeling of model error

## Error framework:

Measurements:  $y_{\text{data}} = y_{\text{truth}} + \epsilon_d$

Model predictions:  $y_{\text{truth}} = y_{\text{model}} + \epsilon_m$

Thus:  $y_{\text{data}} = y_{\text{model}} + \epsilon_m + \epsilon_d$

## Error modeling – example

Model:  $y_{\text{model}} = f(x, \lambda)$

Data Error:  $\epsilon_d \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

Model Error:  $\epsilon_m \sim \text{GP}(\mu(x), C(x, x'))$

## Model calibration:

Estimate model parameters  $\lambda$  along with those of  $\epsilon_m, \epsilon_d$

# Challenges – Physical Models

- arbitrary choice of statistical model (*e.g.* GP) spatial structure does not take the physical model into acct
  - potential violation of implicit constraints in physical models
  - *e.g.* incompressible flow:  $\nabla \cdot v = 0$
- difficulty in disambiguation of model & data error
- calibration of model error on measured observable does not impact quality of other model predictions
- Physical scientists are unlikely to augment their model with a statistical model error term on select outputs

# Key idea - Targeted model error embedding

- Embed model error in specific submodel phenomenology (Berliner)
  - a modified transport or constitutive law
  - a modified formulation for a material property
- Pros:
  - Allows placement of model error term in locations where key modeling assumptions and approximations are made
    - as a correction or high-order term
    - as a possible alternate phenomenology
  - explore if it can explain discrepancy on observable
  - naturally preserves model structure and associated constraints
- Cons:
  - complex likelihood  $p(y|\lambda)$  for general nonlinear  $f(x, \lambda, \epsilon_m)$

# Consider a simple no-data-noise setting

- Calibration of a (simple) model against a complex model
- Let the complex model be presumed to represent the truth
- In this context, the data has no noise
- Discrepancy between model and data is all due to model error

$$y_{\text{data}} = y_{\text{truth}} = y_{\text{complex\_model}} = y_{\text{model}} + \epsilon_m$$

- $\epsilon_m = y_{\text{data}} - y_{\text{model}}$  is a deterministic quantity
- The only information as to the quality of the calibrated uncertain model, *e.g.* via a posterior predictive check, is in a unique  $\epsilon_m$  for any  $x$

# model-to-model calibration

Model:  $y = f(x, \lambda, \phi(\epsilon_m))$

- Random variable  $\phi$  in augmented model components carries model error

Data:  $D = \{(x_i, y_{\text{data},i}), i = 1, \dots, N\}$

- Goal:
  - Establish  $\lambda, p(\phi)$  such that the likelihood of the data is high, based on the posterior predictive  $p(y|D)$
- This puts us in a density estimation framework for  $\phi$ :
  - The utility of additional data is to improve the specification of  $\lambda$ , and  $p(\phi)$

# Present Context

Embed  $\epsilon_m$  in  $\lambda$

- Model:  $y = f(x, \lambda)$  with  $\lambda : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$
- Density estimation problem for  $p(\lambda)$
- Let the random variable  $\lambda$  be parameterized by  $\alpha$ 
  - For example, define  $\lambda$  as a polynomial chaos expansion

$$\lambda = \sum_{k=0}^P \alpha_k \Psi_k(\xi)$$

- Parameter estimation problem for  $\alpha = (\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_P)$
- Bayesian setting
  - Prior  $\pi(\alpha)$
  - Likelihood  $L(\alpha) = p(D|\alpha)$

# Likelihood construction – variants

- Full Likelihood

$$L(\alpha) = p(D|\alpha) = p(y_{\text{data},1}, \dots, y_{\text{data},N}|\alpha)$$

- Marginalized Likelihood

$$L(\alpha) = p(D|\alpha) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(y_{\text{data},i}|\alpha)$$

- Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC):

Seek to satisfy the constraints:

- $p(y|D)$  is “centered” on the data
- The width of the distribution  $p(y|D)$  is “consistent” with the spread of the data around the nominal model prediction

# Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

Employ a kernel density as a pseudo-likelihood to enforce select constraints:

- Uncertain prediction  $p(y|D)$  is centered on the data
  - With  $\mu_i(\alpha) = E_{\xi}[f(x_i, \lambda(\xi; \alpha))]$ :  
 minimize  $\| \mu_i(\alpha) - y_{\text{data},i} \|_2^2$
- The width of the distribution  $p(y|D)$  is consistent with the spread of the data around the nominal model prediction
  - With  $\sigma_i^2(\alpha) = V_{\xi}[f(x_i, \lambda(\xi, \alpha))]$ :  
 minimize  $\| \sigma_i(\alpha) - \gamma |\mu_i(\alpha) - y_{\text{data},i}| \|_2^2$
  - $\gamma$  is a factor that specifies the desired match between  $\sigma_i$  and the discrepancy  $|\mu_i(\alpha) - y_{\text{data},i}|$ , on average

# ABC Likelihood

With  $\rho(\mathcal{S})$  being a metric of the statistic  $\mathcal{S}$ , use the kernel function as an ABC likelihood:

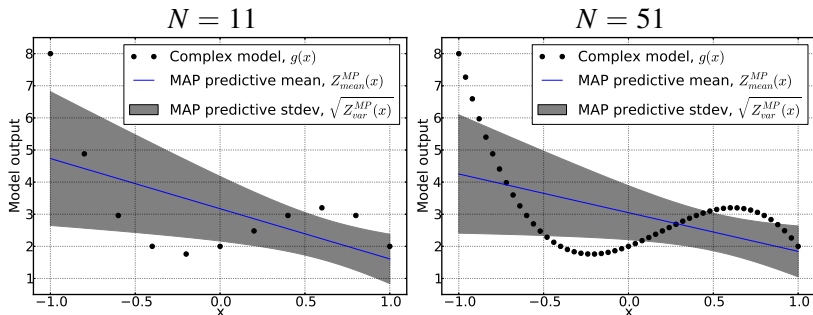
$$L_{\text{ABC}}(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} K \left( \frac{\rho(\mathcal{S})}{\epsilon} \right)$$

where  $\epsilon$  controls the severity of the consistency control

Propose the Gaussian kernel density:

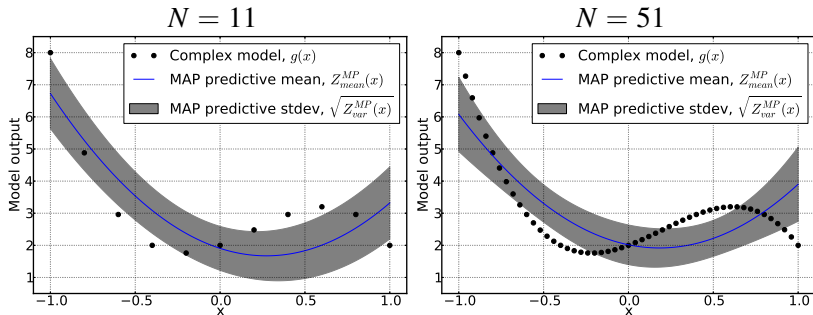
$$L_{\epsilon}(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\epsilon \sqrt{2\pi}} \prod_{i=1}^N \exp \left( -\frac{(\mu_i(\alpha) - y_{d,i})^2 + (\sigma_i(\alpha) - \gamma|\mu_i(\alpha) - y_{d,i}|)^2}{2\epsilon^2} \right)$$

# Test problem – Cubic data fit by a line



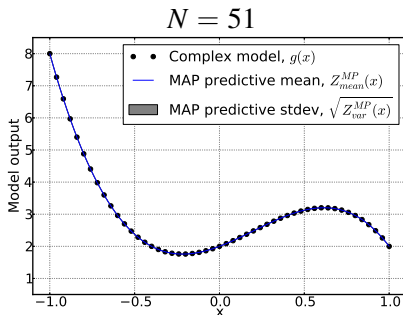
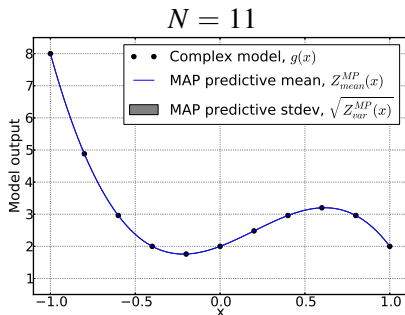
- MAP predictive (MP) mean centered on data
- MP standard deviation captures range of discrepancy
- Increasing number of data points has a small effect on both MP mean and stdev

# Test problem – Cubic data fit by a quadratic



- Quadratic has better fit to the data
- Smaller MP stdev consistent with smaller discrepancy

# Test problem – Cubic data fit by a cubic



- Cubic has perfect fit to the data
- Negligible MP stdev consistent with negligible discrepancy

# Consider a noisy-data setting

- Calibration of a model  $y_m = f(x, \lambda)$  against noisy data
- Synthetic noisy data is generated from a “truth” model + Gaussian noise
- Discrepancy between fit model prediction and data is due to both model error & data noise

$$y = y_{\text{data}} = y_{\text{truth}} + \epsilon = f(x, \lambda) + \epsilon$$

- Modeling strategy:
  - Model  $\lambda$  as a random vector, represented with PC
  - Represent the noise similarly using PC
  - Estimate all PC coefficients using ABC

# Model Error formulation – noisy data

$$y = f(x, \lambda) + \epsilon$$

Let  $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ . With  $N$  *i.i.d.* data points we have

$$y_i = f(x_i, \lambda) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

For Hermite-Gaussian PC:

$$\lambda = \sum_{k=0}^P \alpha_k \Psi_k(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d), \quad \alpha \equiv (\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_P)$$

$$f(x, \lambda) = \sum_{k=0}^P f_k(x, \alpha) \Psi_k(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d)$$

$$y_i = h(x_i, \alpha, \sigma, \xi) = \sum_{k=0}^P f_k(x_i, \alpha) \Psi_k(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d) + \sigma \xi_{d+i}$$

Augmented PC germ  $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d, \xi_{d+1}, \dots, \xi_{d+N})$

# Model Error Estimation – noisy data

Inverse problem:

- Given:

- data:

$$D = \{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$$

- data model:

for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ :

$$y_i = h(x_i, \alpha, \sigma, \xi) = \sum_k f_k(x_i, \alpha) \Psi_k(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d) + \sigma \xi_{d+i}$$

- estimate  $(\alpha, \sigma)$ .

Bayesian context:

- posterior:  $p(\alpha, \sigma | D)$
- options: Full Bayesian likelihood; Marginalized; ABC
- ABC : Estimate  $(\alpha, \sigma)$  s.t. mean and stdv of  $h(x, \alpha, \sigma, \xi)$  are consistent with  $D$  in an  $\ell_2$ -sense

# Calibrated Uncertain Model Predictions

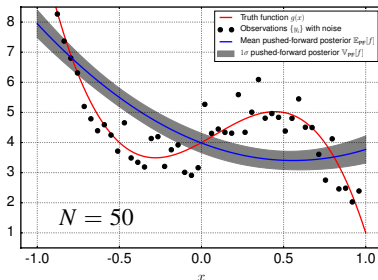
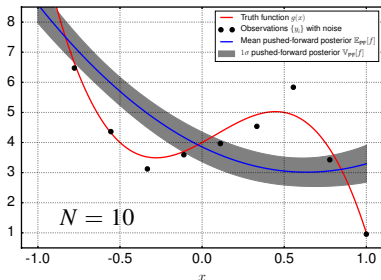
- Calibrated model :  $y = f(x; \lambda(\xi; \alpha))$
- Pushed forward posterior :  $p(f(x; \lambda(\xi; \alpha))|D)$
- PFP Mean :

$$\mathbb{E}_{\text{PFP}}[f(x; \lambda(\xi; \alpha))] = \mathbb{E}_{\alpha}[\mathbb{E}_{\xi}[f]]$$

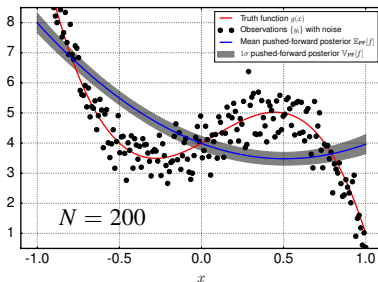
- PFP Variance:

$$\mathbb{V}_{\text{PFP}}[f(x; \lambda(\xi; \alpha))] = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\alpha}[\mathbb{V}_{\xi}[f]]}_{\sim \text{model error}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{V}_{\alpha}[\mathbb{E}_{\xi}[f]]}_{\sim \text{data noise}}$$

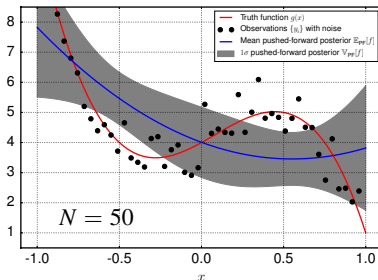
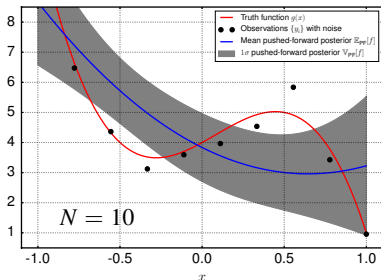
# Cubic-quadratic fitting – Classical Bayesian likelihood



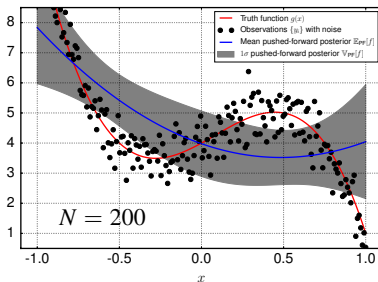
- With additional data, predictive uncertainty around the wrong model is indefinitely reducible
- Predictive uncertainty not indicative of discrepancy from truth



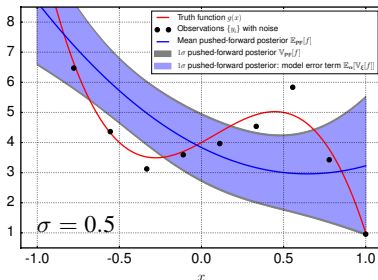
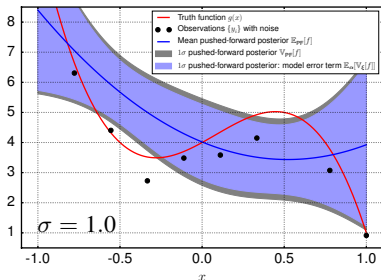
# Cubic-quadratic fitting – Model Error ABC Likelihood



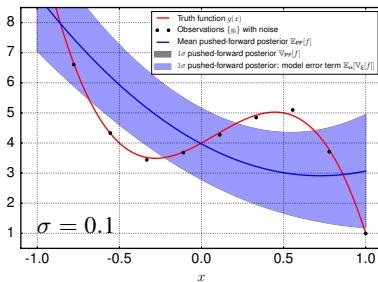
- With additional data, predictive uncertainty around the wrong model is not reducible
- Predictive uncertainty is indicative of discrepancy from truth



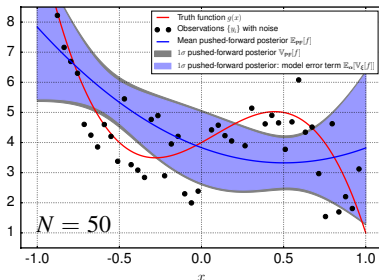
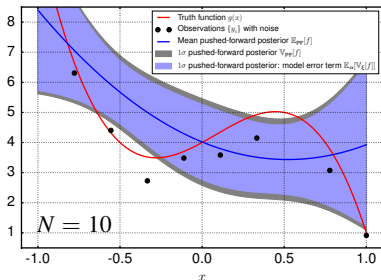
# Cubic-quadratic – Model Error – ABC



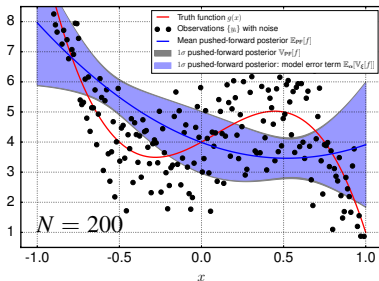
- Predictive uncertainty composed of both model-error and data-noise components
- The data-noise component is reducible with lower-noise in the data



# Cubic-quadratic – Model Error – ABC



- With additional data, predictive uncertainty due to data noise is reducible
- Predictive uncertainty due to model error is not reducible



# Closure

- Presented a strategy for dealing with model error
  - targeted at physical models
- Density estimation framework –  $y = f(x; \lambda(\xi; \alpha))$
- ABC : data model is constrained such that
  - nominal prediction is centered on the data
  - predictive uncertainty is consistent with discrepancy fr. data
- Uncertain predictions with the calibrated model include uncertainty due to both model-error and data-noise
- Results suggest disambiguation of the two components
- Uncertainty due to data-noise:
  - Manifested in  $\mathbb{V}_\alpha[\mathbb{E}_\xi[f]]$  – Reducible with more/cleaner data
- Uncertainty due to model-error:
  - Manifested in  $\mathbb{E}_\alpha[\mathbb{V}_\xi[f]]$  – Not reducible