

Uncertainty Quantification: Enabling Predictive Simulations

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Overview

- Introduction
- Basic methods for uncertainty quantification
- Application to chemical kinetics
- Advanced uncertainty quantification topics

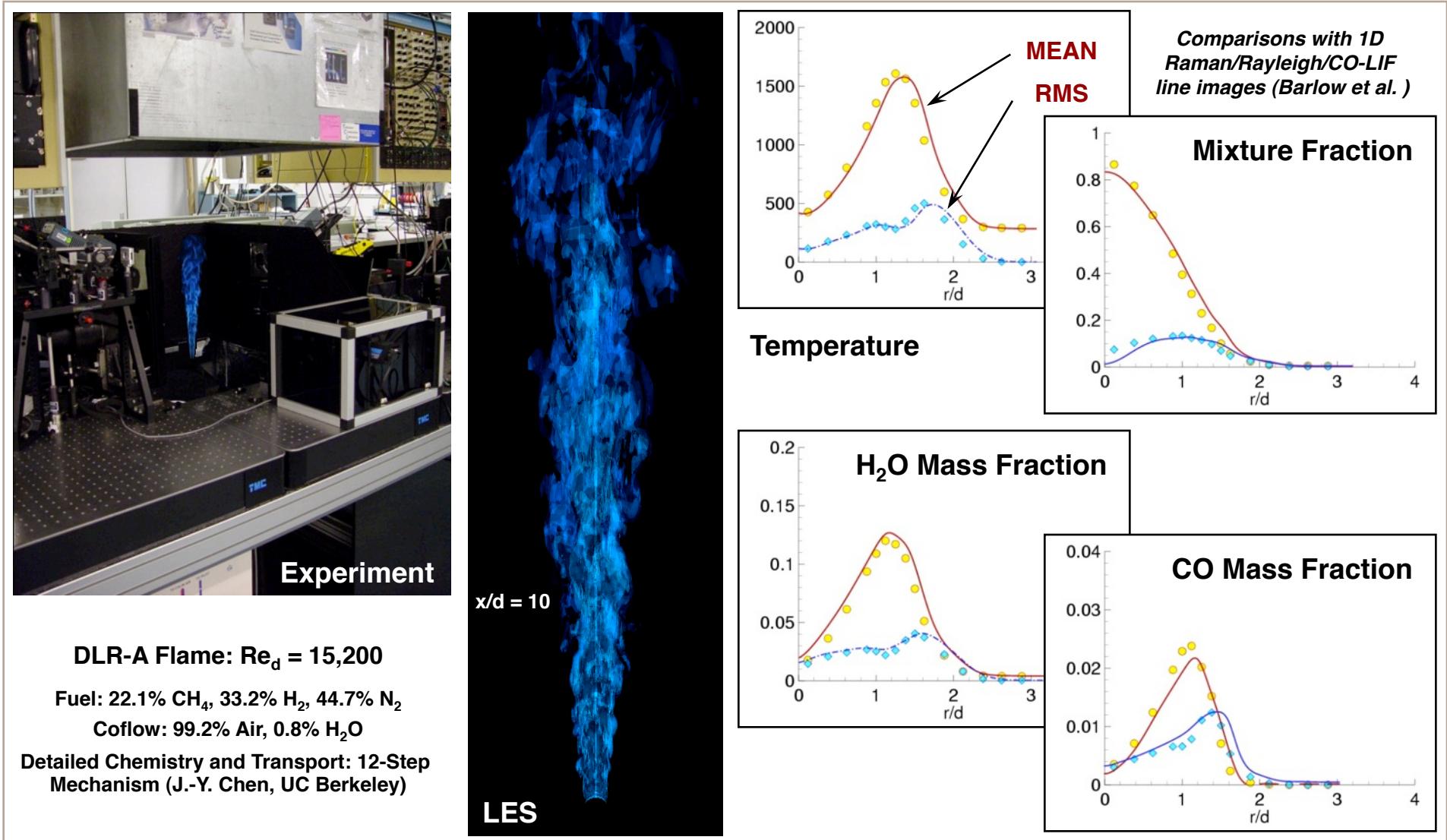
Overview

- **Introduction**
 - Predictive simulation
 - Sources of uncertainty
 - Uncertainty quantification objectives
- Basic methods for uncertainty quantification
- Application to chemical kinetics
- Advanced uncertainty quantification topics

Predictive simulations enable science based design

- Empirical design is inefficient and costly
 - Trial and error does not work well for complex systems
- Experiments not always feasible or permissible
 - Reliability of nuclear weapons
 - Climate change mitigation approaches
- Predictive simulations provide insight into the underlying physics that drive complex systems
 - Identification of key mechanisms
 - Allows for rigorous optimization strategies

Model validation requires targeted experiments



Predictive simulation requires careful assessment of all sources of error and uncertainty

- Numerical errors
 - Grid resolution
 - Time step size
 - Time integration order
 - Spatial derivative order
- Epistemic uncertainty
 - Initial and boundary conditions
 - Model parameters
 - Model equations
- Aleatory uncertainty / intrinsic variability
 - Stochastic processes
 - Sampling noise

Governing equations

- Mass:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\theta \bar{\rho}) + \nabla \cdot (\theta \bar{\rho} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}) = \bar{\rho}_s$$

- Momentum:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\theta \bar{\rho} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}) + \nabla \cdot \left[\theta \left(\bar{\rho} \tilde{\mathbf{u}} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{u}} + \frac{\mathcal{P}}{M^2} \mathbf{I} \right) \right] = \nabla \cdot (\theta \vec{\mathcal{T}}) + \bar{\mathbf{F}}_s$$

- Total Energy:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\theta \bar{\rho} \tilde{e}_t) + \nabla \cdot [\theta (\bar{\rho} \tilde{e}_t + \mathcal{P}) \tilde{\mathbf{u}}] = \nabla \cdot \left[\theta \left(\vec{\mathcal{Q}}_e + M^2 (\vec{\mathcal{T}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{u}}) \right) \right] + \theta \bar{Q}_e + \bar{Q}_s$$

- Species:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\theta \bar{\rho} \tilde{Y}_i) + \nabla \cdot (\theta \bar{\rho} \tilde{Y}_i \tilde{\mathbf{u}}) = \nabla \cdot (\theta \vec{\mathcal{S}}_i) + \theta \bar{\omega}_i + \bar{\omega}_{s_i}$$

- Spray Source Terms
- Composite Stresses/Fluxes
- Chemical Source Terms

Smagorinsky sub-grid scale model

- Eddy Viscosity:

$$\mu_t = \bar{\rho} C_R \Delta^2 \Pi_{\tilde{\mathbf{S}}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \Pi_{\tilde{\mathbf{S}}} = \tilde{\mathbf{S}} : \tilde{\mathbf{S}} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \tilde{\mathbf{u}} + \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{u}}^T)$$

- Stress Tensor:

$$\vec{\mathcal{T}} = (\mu_t + \mu) \frac{1}{Re} \left[-\frac{2}{3} (\nabla \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{u}}) \mathbf{I} + (\nabla \tilde{\mathbf{u}} + \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{u}}^T) \right] - \bar{\rho} (\tilde{\mathbf{u}} \tilde{\otimes} \tilde{\mathbf{u}} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}} \tilde{\otimes} \tilde{\mathbf{u}})$$

Dynamic modeling and reacting flows involve additional complexity

- Eddy Viscosity:

$$\mu_t = \bar{\rho} C_R \Delta^2 \Pi_{\tilde{\mathbf{S}}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \Pi_{\tilde{\mathbf{S}}} = \tilde{\mathbf{S}} : \tilde{\mathbf{S}} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \tilde{\mathbf{u}} + \nabla \tilde{\mathbf{u}}^T)$$

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- Energy Flux:

$$\vec{\mathcal{Q}}_e = \left(\frac{\mu_t}{Pr_t} + \frac{\mu}{Pr} \right) \frac{C_p}{Re} \nabla \tilde{T} + \sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{h}_i \vec{\mathcal{S}}_i - \bar{\rho} C_p (\tilde{T} \tilde{\mathbf{u}} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}} \tilde{\otimes} \tilde{\mathbf{u}})$$

- Mass Flux:

$$\vec{\mathcal{S}}_i = \left(\frac{\mu_t}{Sc_{t_i}} + \frac{\mu}{Sc_i} \right) \frac{1}{Re} \nabla \tilde{Y}_i - \bar{\rho} (\tilde{Y}_i \tilde{\mathbf{u}} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}} \tilde{\otimes} \tilde{Y}_i)$$

Coefficients C_R , Pr_t , and Sc_{t_i} Evaluated Dynamically as Functions of Space and Time

UQ assesses confidence in model predictions and allows resource allocation for fidelity improvements

- Parameter inference
 - Determine parameters from data
 - Characterize uncertainty in inferred parameters
- Propagate input uncertainties through computational model
 - Account for uncertainty from all sources
 - Resolve coupling between sources
- Analysis
 - Sensitivity analysis
 - Attribution
- Enables model calibration, validation, selection, averaging

Overview

- Introduction
- Basic methods for uncertainty quantification
 - Representation of random variables
 - Forward propagation
 - Parameter inference
- Application to chemical kinetics
- Advanced uncertainty quantification topics

Polynomial Chaos expansions offer compact representations of random variables

- Random variables are represented as (truncated) Polynomial Chaos (PC) expansions

$$\lambda(\theta) \approx \sum_{k=0}^P \lambda_k \Psi_k(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_{N_{\text{dim}}}) \quad P+1 = \frac{(N_{\text{dim}} + N_{\text{ord}})!}{(N_{\text{dim}}! N_{\text{ord}}!)} \quad \xi_i = N(0,1)$$

- One-dimensional Gauss-Hermite PC

$$\Psi_0(\xi) = 1$$

$$\Psi_1(\xi) = \xi$$

$$\Psi_2(\xi) = \xi^2 - 1$$

$$\Psi_3(\xi) = \xi^3 - 3\xi$$

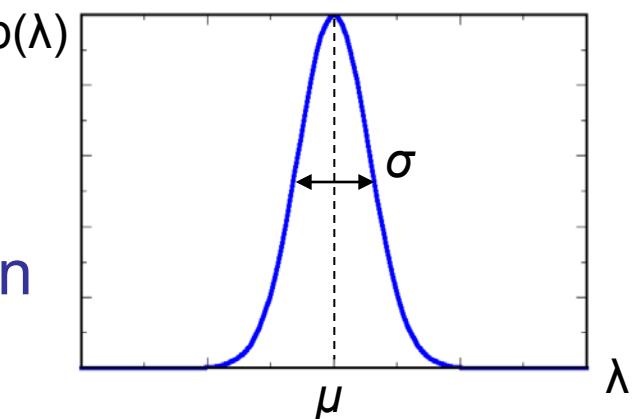
$$\Psi_4(\xi) = \xi^4 - 6\xi^2 + 3$$

$$\lambda_k = \frac{\langle \lambda \Psi_k \rangle}{\langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle}$$

$$\langle \lambda \Psi_k \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda \Psi_k e^{-\xi^2/2} d\xi$$

- Parameter with Gaussian distribution

$$\lambda = \mu + \sigma \xi$$



Propagation of uncertainty

- Consider example ODE with uncertain parameter λ

$$\frac{du}{dt} = f(\lambda, u) \quad u(t=0) = u_0$$

- Represent both u and λ with PC expansions

$$\lambda = \sum_{k=0}^P \lambda_k \Psi_k \quad \lambda_k \text{ known}$$

$$u(t) = \sum_{k=0}^P u_k(t) \Psi_k \quad u_k(t) \text{ unknown}$$

- Additional uncertain parameters introduce new stochastic dimensions
- Intrusive and non-intrusive approaches for determining the PC coefficients u_k

Spectral intrusive propagation of uncertainty

- Substitute PC expansions for u and λ in the governing equation
- Perform Galerkin projection onto the PC basis functions
 - System of equations for the PC coefficients $u_k(t)$
 - $(P+1)$ coupled deterministic equations

Substituting PC expansions into the governing equation yields deterministic equations for PC coefficients

- Example ODE with uncertain parameter λ

$$\frac{du}{dt} = \lambda u^2 \quad \lambda = \sum_{i=0}^P \lambda_i \Psi_i \quad u(t) = \sum_{j=0}^P u_j(t) \Psi_j$$

- Substitute PC expansions in the ODE

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sum_{j=0}^P u_j(t) \Psi_j = \left(\sum_{l=0}^P \lambda_l \Psi_l \right) \left(\sum_{m=0}^P u_m(t) \Psi_m \right) \left(\sum_{n=0}^P u_n(t) \Psi_n \right)$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^P \frac{du_j(t)}{dt} \Psi_j = \sum_{l=0}^P \sum_{m=0}^P \sum_{n=0}^P \lambda_l u_m(t) u_n(t) \Psi_l \Psi_m \Psi_n$$

- Multiply by Ψ_k , take expectation and use orthogonality

$$\left\langle \Psi_k \sum_{j=0}^P \frac{du_j(t)}{dt} \Psi_j \right\rangle = \left\langle \Psi_k \sum_{l=0}^P \sum_{m=0}^P \sum_{n=0}^P \lambda_l u_m(t) u_n(t) \Psi_l \Psi_m \Psi_n \right\rangle$$

$$\frac{du_k(t)}{dt} = \sum_{l=0}^P \sum_{m=0}^P \sum_{n=0}^P \lambda_l u_m(t) u_n(t) C_{klmn} \quad C_{klmn} = \frac{\langle \Psi_k \Psi_l \Psi_m \Psi_n \rangle}{\langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle}$$

Spectral intrusive propagation in practice

- Pros
 - Elegant
 - One time solution of system of equations for the PC coefficients fully characterizes uncertainty in all variables at all times
 - Tailored solvers can (potentially) take advantage of new hardware developments
- Cons
 - Often requires re-write of the original code
 - Reformulated system is factor $(P+1)$ larger than the original system and can be challenging to solve
- Many efforts in the community to automate intrusive UQ
 - UQ Toolkit <http://www.sandia.gov/UQToolkit/>
 - Sundance <http://www.math.ttu.edu/~klong/Sundance/html/>
 - Stokhos <http://trilinos.sandia.gov/packages/stokhos/>
 - ...

Non-intrusive or sampling-based propagation of uncertainty

- Do not require changes to the original solver code
 - Used as black box to generate samples
- Two main categories
 - Galerkin projection approaches
 - Collocation approaches

Non-intrusive spectral projection (NISP) for uncertainty propagation

- Obtain u_k by direct projection onto PC basis

$$u_k = \frac{\langle u \Psi_k \rangle}{\langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u \Psi_k e^{-\xi^2/2} d\xi \Big/ \langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle$$

- Random sampling approach: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\xi) e^{-\xi^2} dx \cong \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(\xi_i)$
 - Monte Carlo (MC), Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS), ...
 - Convergence as $1/\sqrt{N}$
- Quadrature approach: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\xi) e^{-\xi^2} dx \cong \sum_{i=1}^{N_{qp}} w_i f(\xi_i)$
 - Gauss-Hermite quadrature for u_k exact with $N_{qp} = P+1$ if u is a polynomial of order P (one-dimensional)
 - Evaluate u at N_{qp} quadrature points corresponding to different values of $\lambda(\xi_i)$

Collocation approaches rely on interpolation

- Do not perform projection onto the basis functions
- Consider $u = g(\lambda)$
- Sample parameter space

$$\lambda_i = \sum_{k=0}^P \lambda_k \Psi_k(\xi_i)$$

- Solve a system of equations for u_k

$$u_i = g(\lambda_i) = \sum_{k=0}^P u_k \Psi_k(\xi_i)$$

- Many variants depending on location and number of sample points
 - Generally more samples than PC coefficients

Sampling-based approaches in practice

- Pros
 - Easy to use as wrappers around existing codes
 - Embarrassingly parallel
- Cons
 - Most methods suffer severely from curse of dimensionality
$$N = n^d$$
 - (Adaptive) sparse quadrature/collocation methods
- Sampling methods have found very, very widespread use in the community
 - DAKOTA <http://dakota.sandia.gov/>

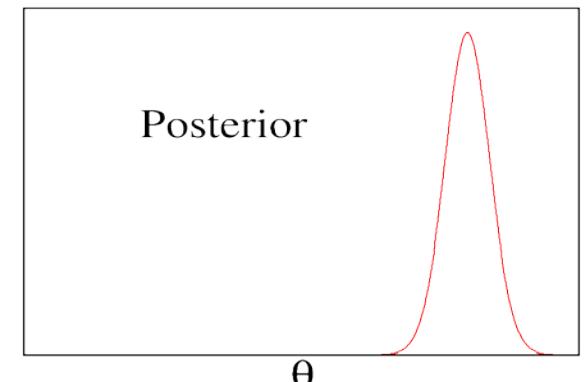
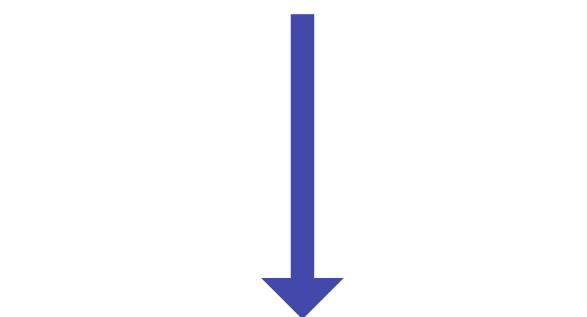
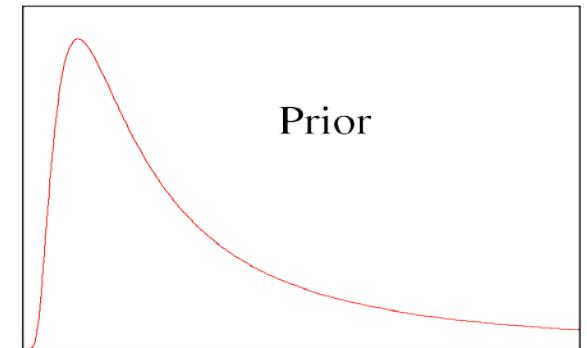


Bayesian methods provide probabilistic framework for parameter inference

- Bayes rule

$$\overbrace{P(\theta | D, M)}^{\text{posterior}} = \frac{\overbrace{P(D | \theta, M) P(\theta | M)}^{\text{likelihood prior}}}{\overbrace{P(D | M)}^{\text{evidence}}}$$

- Probabilistic framework
 - Naturally handles uncertainties
 - Posterior width indicates confidence in inferred information
 - Can handle heterogeneous data sources
 - Lends itself well to model comparison (Bayes factors)



Likelihood measures goodness-of-fit

$$L(\theta) \propto \prod_{i=1}^N e^{-\text{dist}[d_i, m(\theta)]/s_i^2}$$

Compare experimental data $D = \{d_i\}_{i=1}^N$

with computational model output $m(\theta)$

via *measurement* model $\text{Measured Quantity} = f_i(\text{Modeled Quantity})$

and instrument noise s_i

e.g., Gaussian assumption,

$$\text{dist}[d_i, m(\theta)] = [d_i - f_i(m(\theta))]^2$$

- Instrument noise and measurement model details often inferred as *hyperparameters*.

Posterior distribution generally sampled with Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

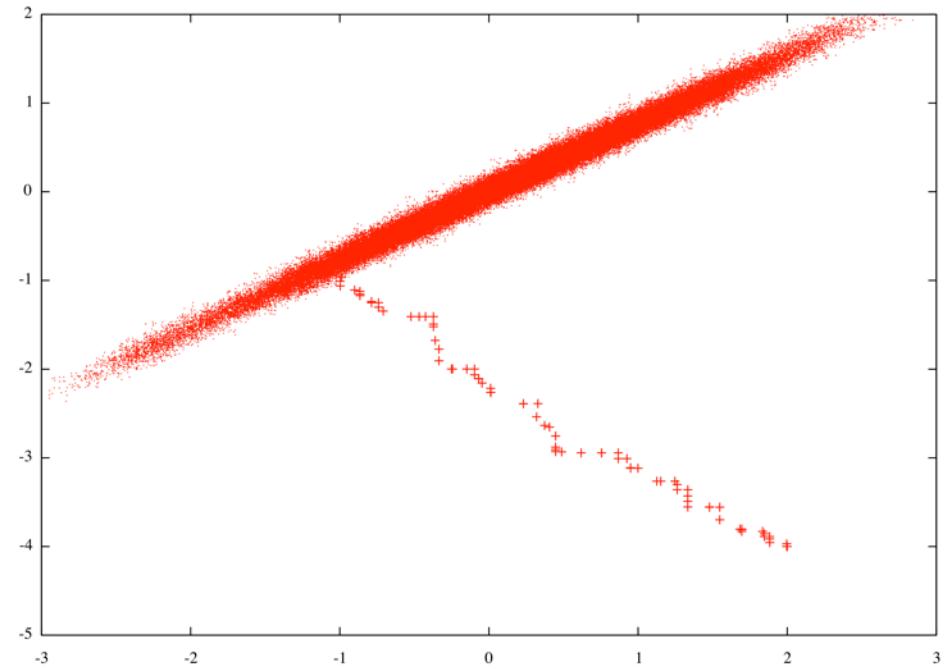
- Basic Metropolis-Hastings algorithm

- Generate new sample θ^2 from Gaussian proposal distribution centered at current state θ^1
 - Proposal distribution width determines mixing
 - Compute

$$\alpha = \min\left(1, \frac{p(\theta^2 | D, M)}{p(\theta^1 | D, M)}\right)$$

- Accept new sample with probability α

- Many variations / enhancements exist



Overview

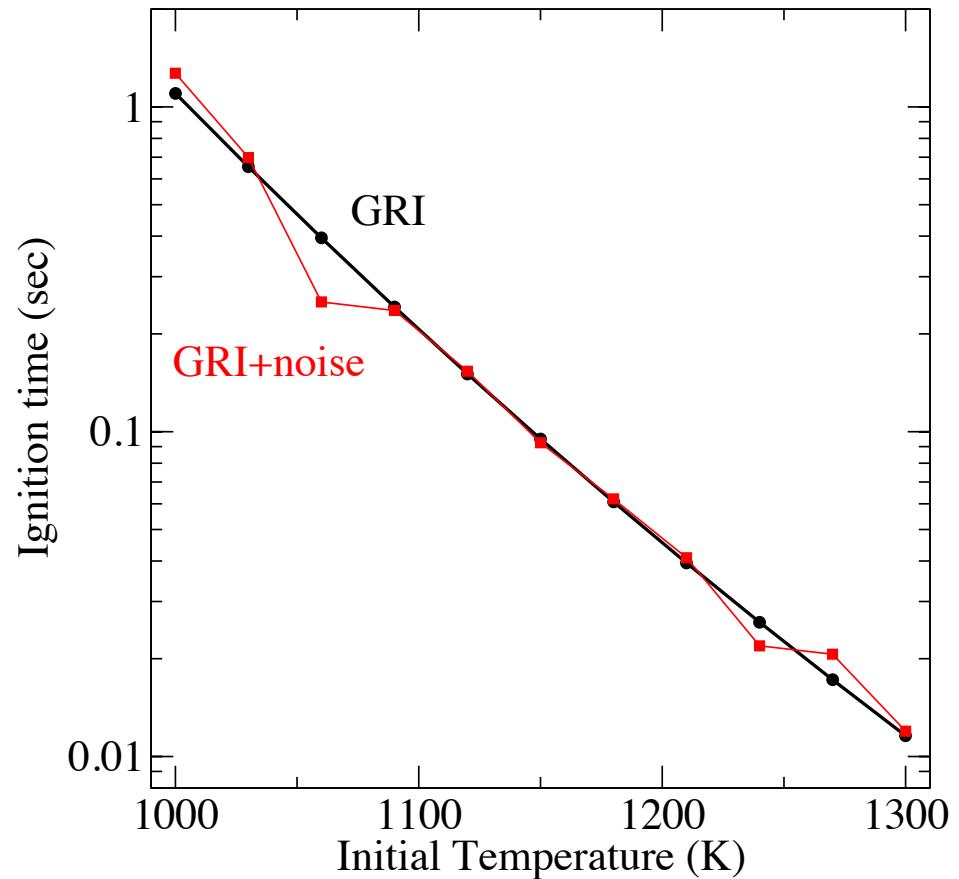
- Introduction
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- Application to chemical kinetics
 - Inference and propagation of reaction kinetics uncertainty
 - Effect of correlation between inferred parameters
- Advanced uncertainty quantification topics

Synthetic “experimental ignition data” generated from detailed chemistry model with added noise

- GRI 3.0 model for methane-air chemistry
- Ignition time versus initial temperature
- Multiplicative noise added

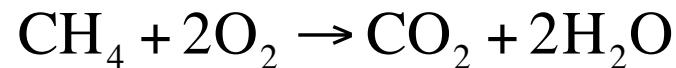
$$d_i = t_{\text{ig},i}^{\text{GRI}} (1 + \sigma \varepsilon_i)$$

$$\varepsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$$



Global single-step irreversible chemical model is fitted to ignition data

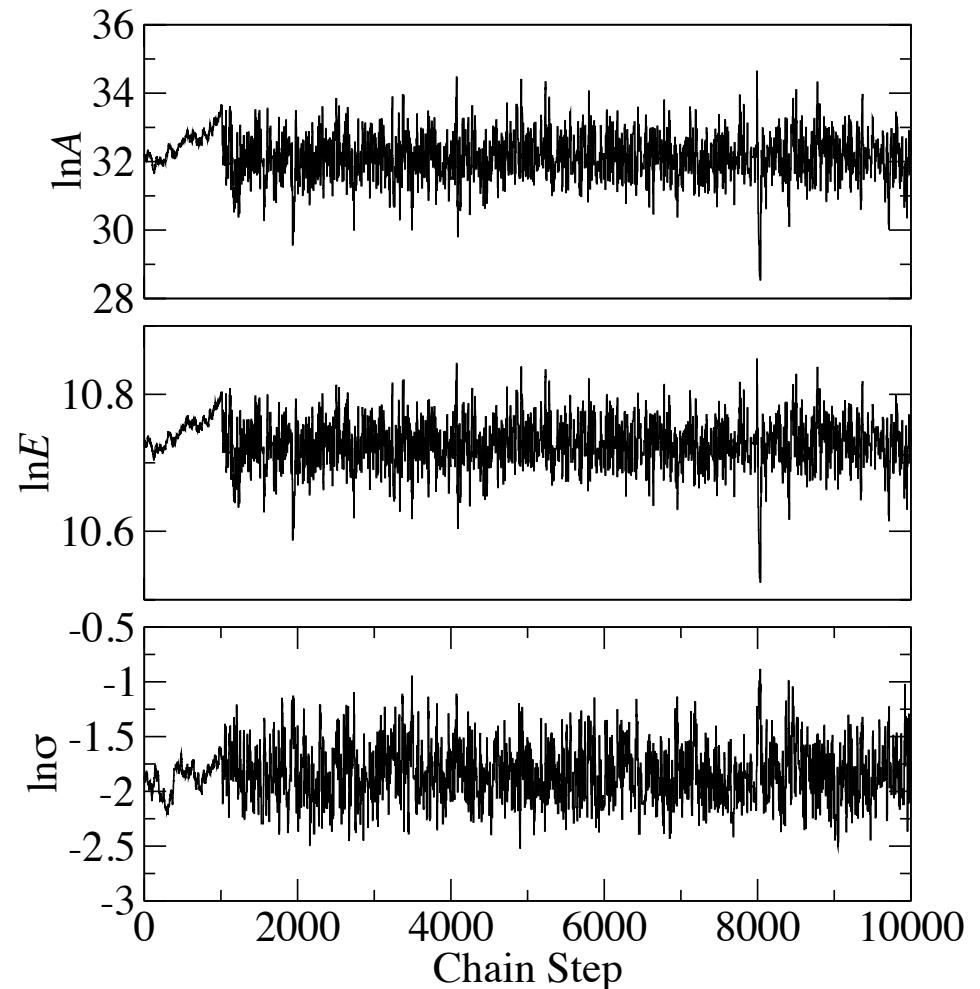
- Model equations



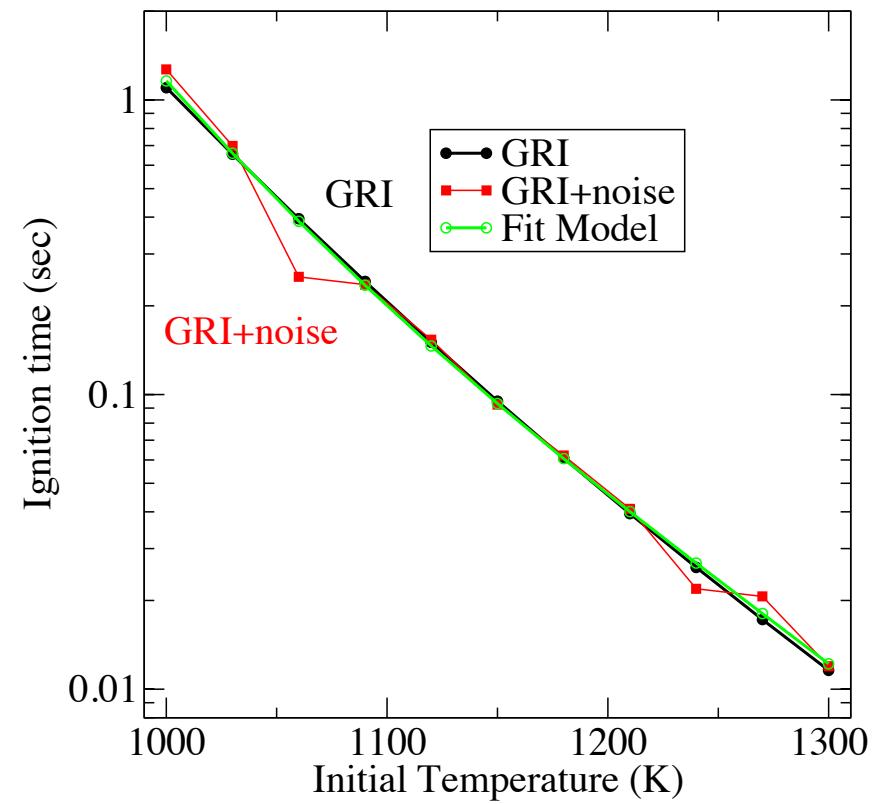
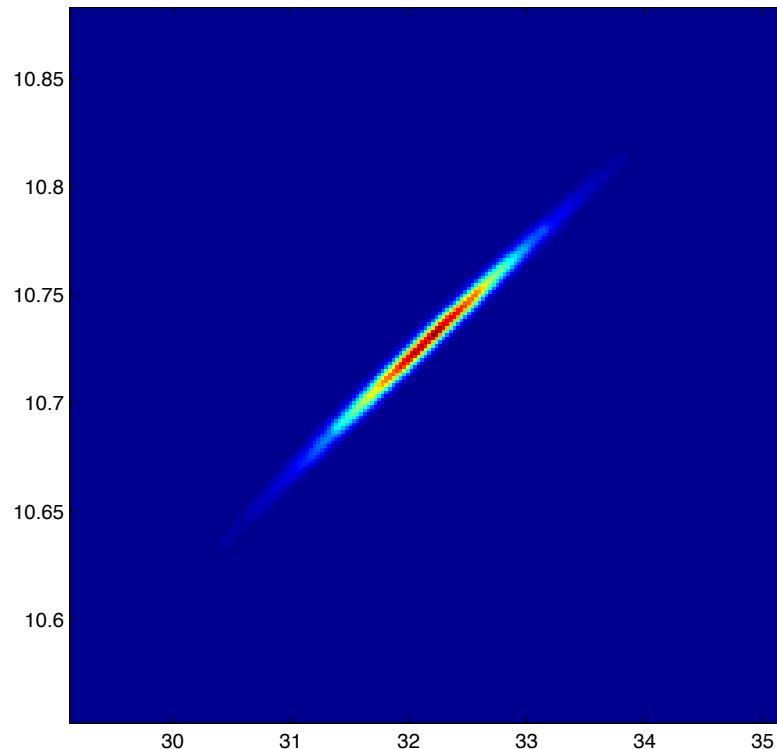
$$\mathcal{R} = [\text{CH}_4][\text{O}_2]k_f$$

$$k_f = A \exp(-E/R^0T)$$

- Infer 3-D parameter vector ($\ln A$, $\ln E$, $\ln \sigma$)
- Good mixing with adaptive MCMC when starting at Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE)



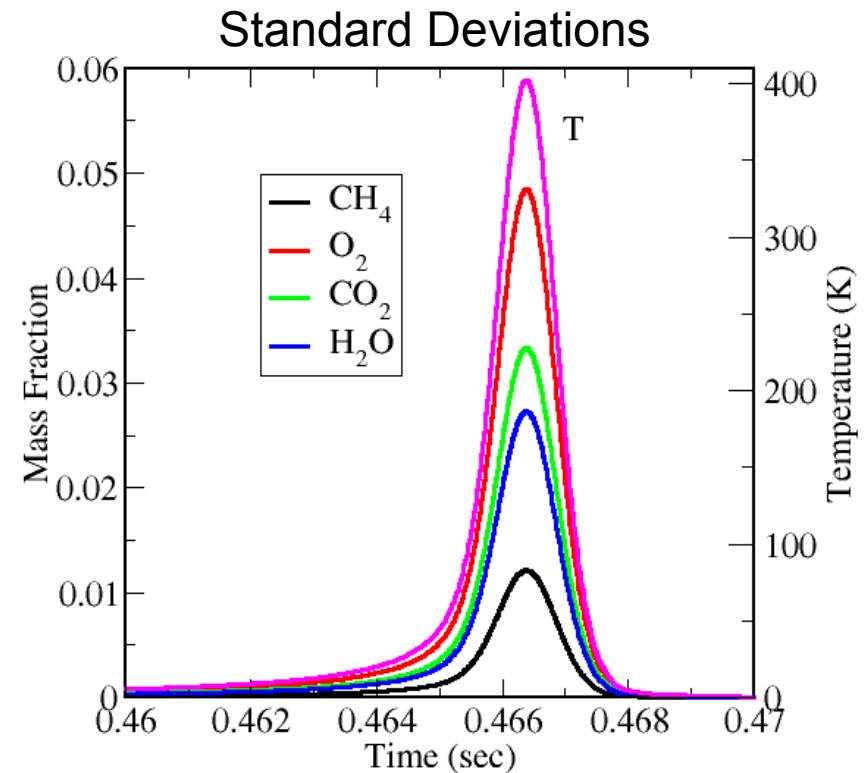
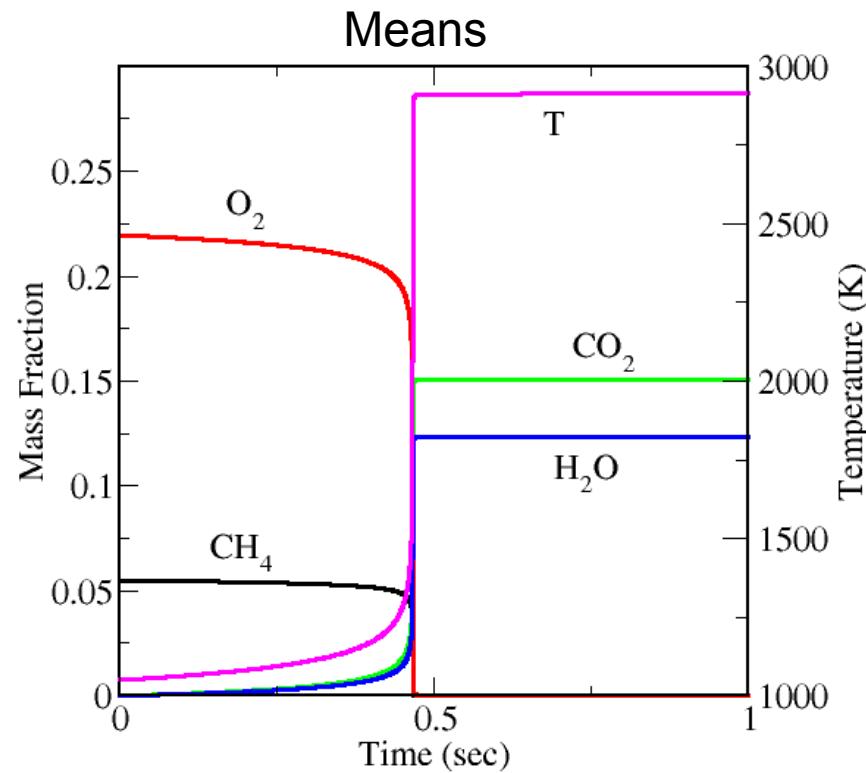
Calibrated global model fits the data well



- Marginal posterior ($\ln A$, $\ln E$) shows strong correlation between the inferred parameters
- Model both with one Gaussian random variable

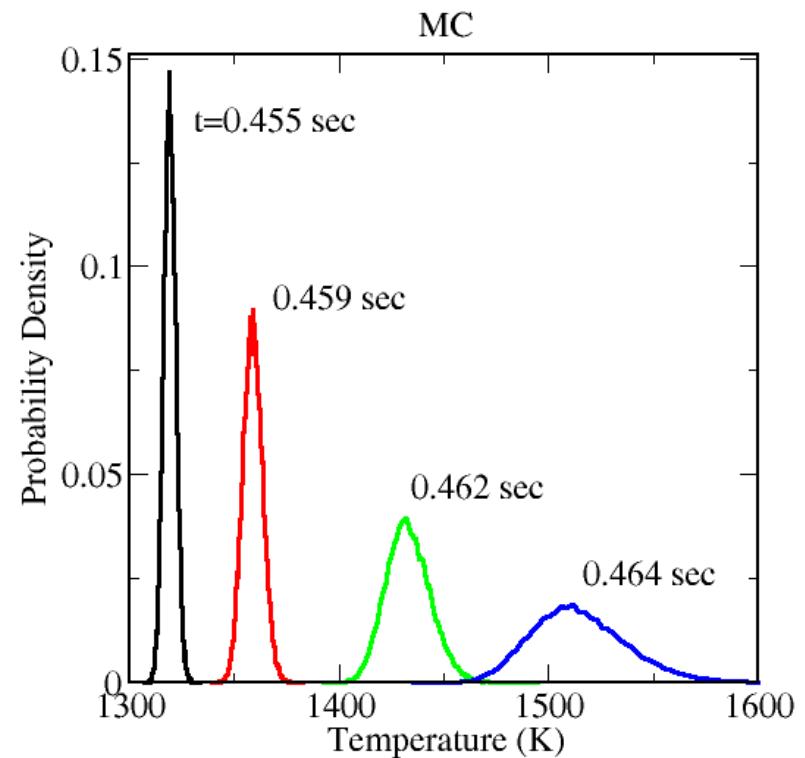
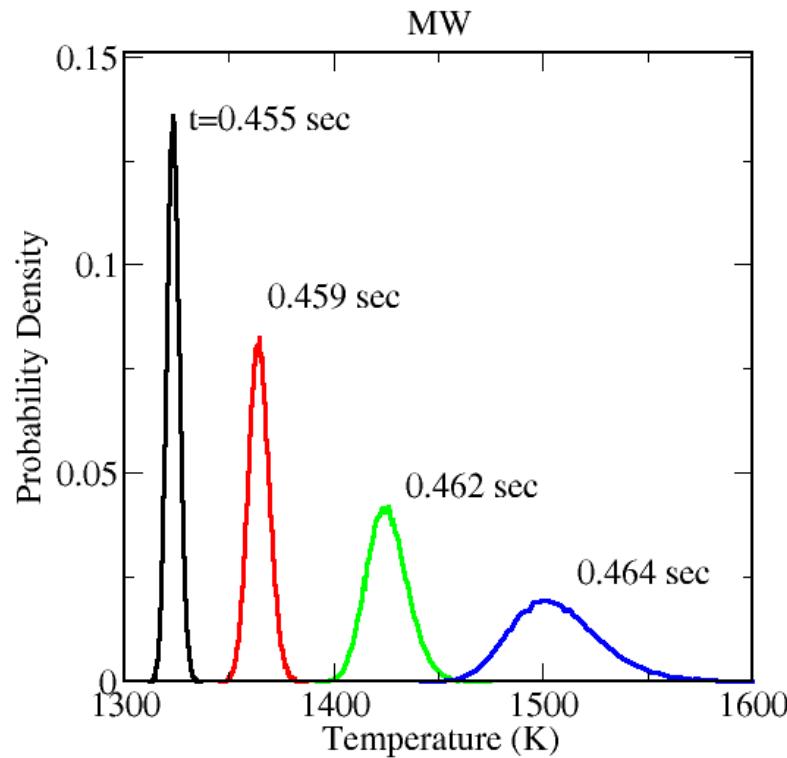
$$\chi = \frac{\sigma_{\ln E}}{\sigma_{\ln A}}$$

Uncertainty in forward model predictions



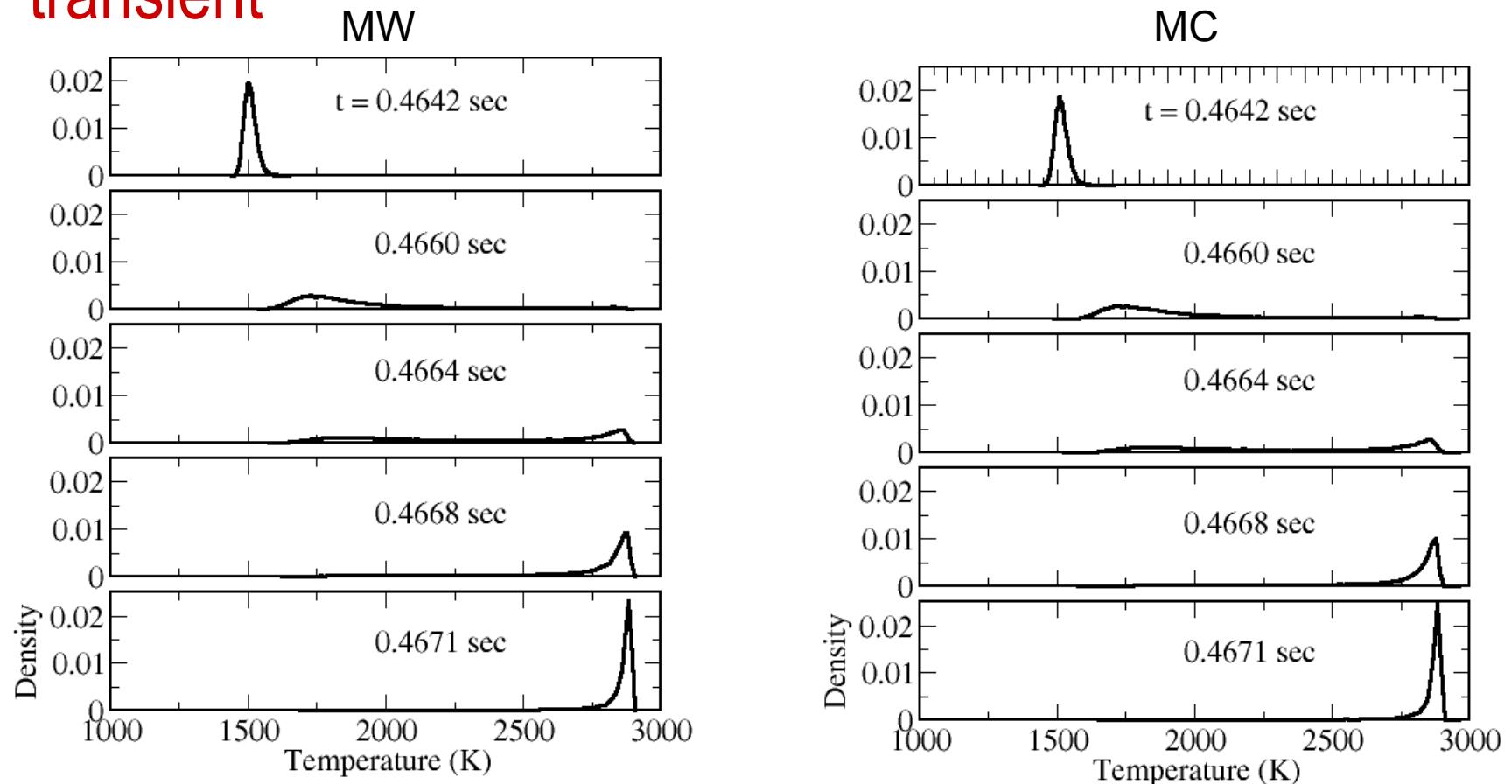
- 4th order multiwavelet PC, multiblock adaptive
- Max standard deviation in T about 400K for $\chi = 0.03$

Evolution of temperature PDFs during preheat phase



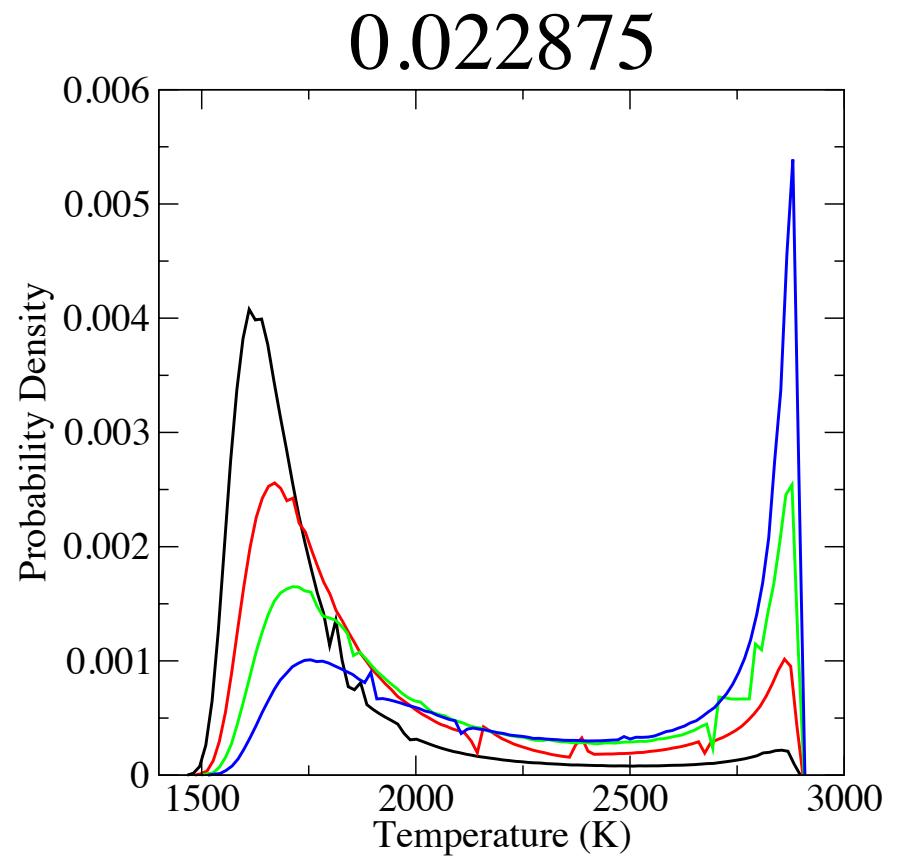
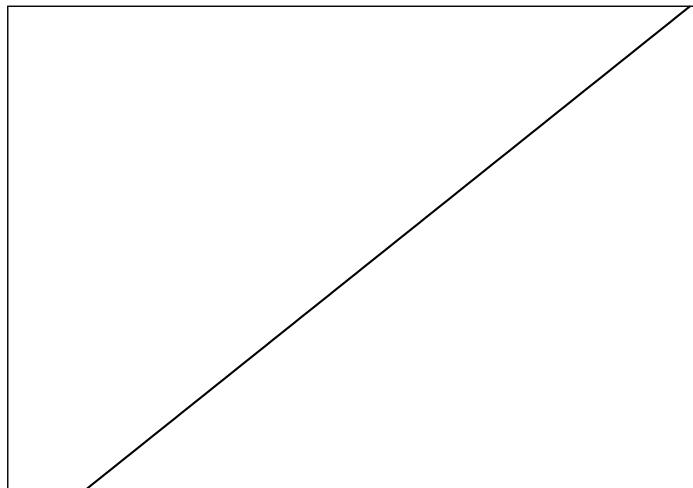
- Similar results from Monte Carlo (20K samples) as intrusive PC
- With time, uncertainty increases and high- T tails get longer

Evolution of temperature PDFs during ignition transient

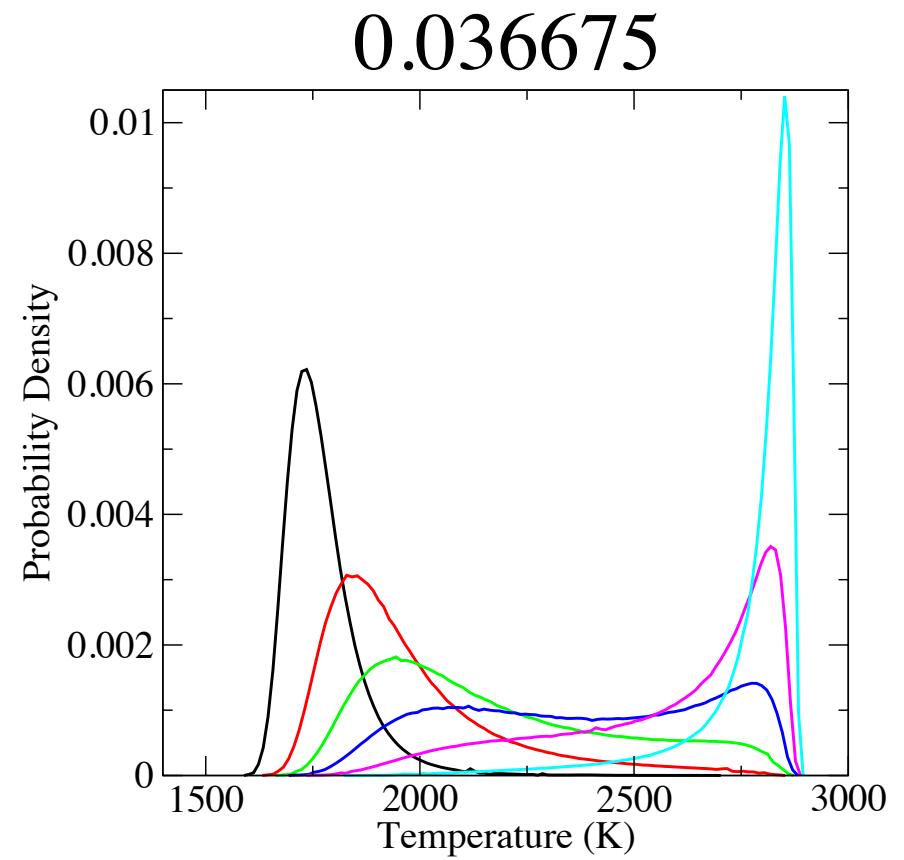
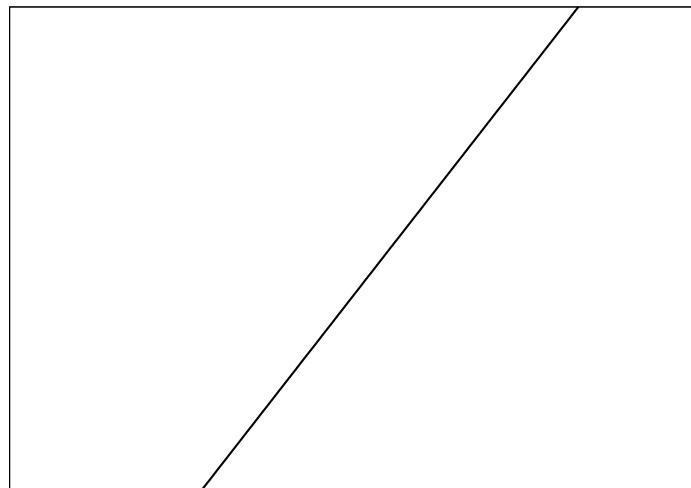


- Transition from unimodal to bimodal pdfs
- Leakage of probability mass from pre-heat PDF high- T tail

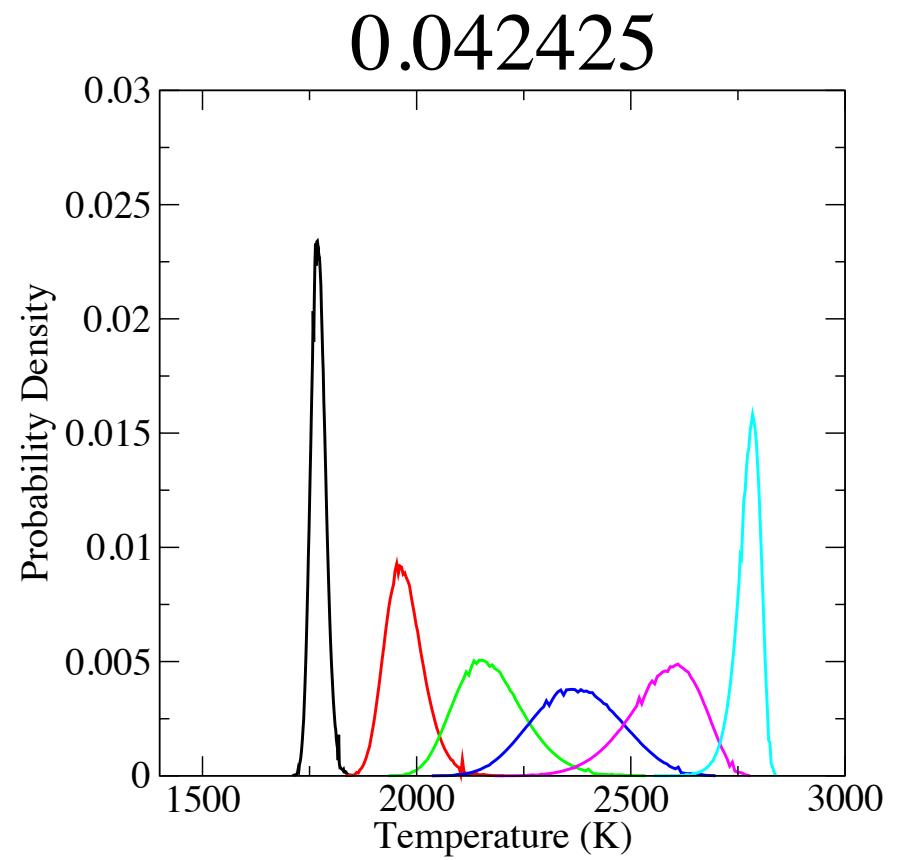
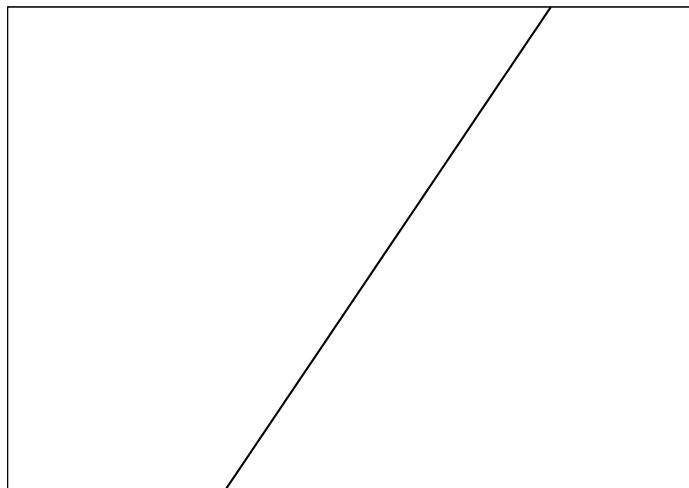
Correlation slope between uncertain parameters has a strong effect on predicted ignition transient uncertainty



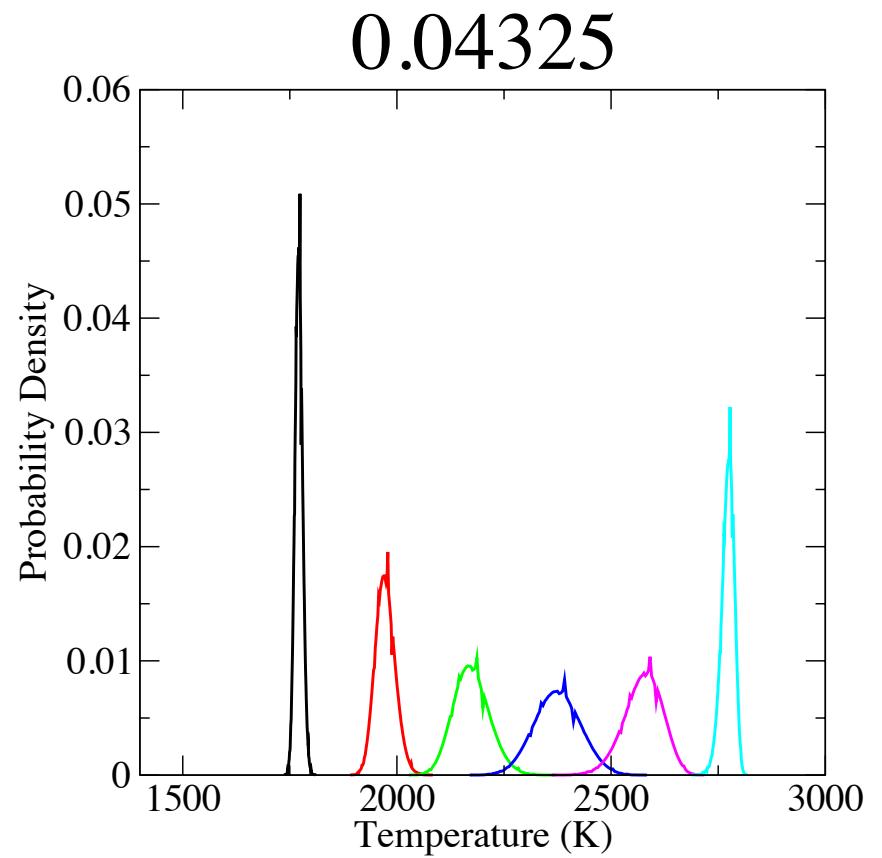
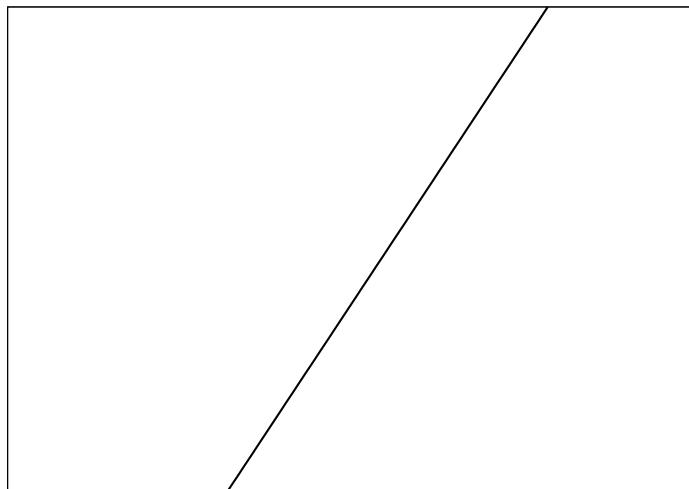
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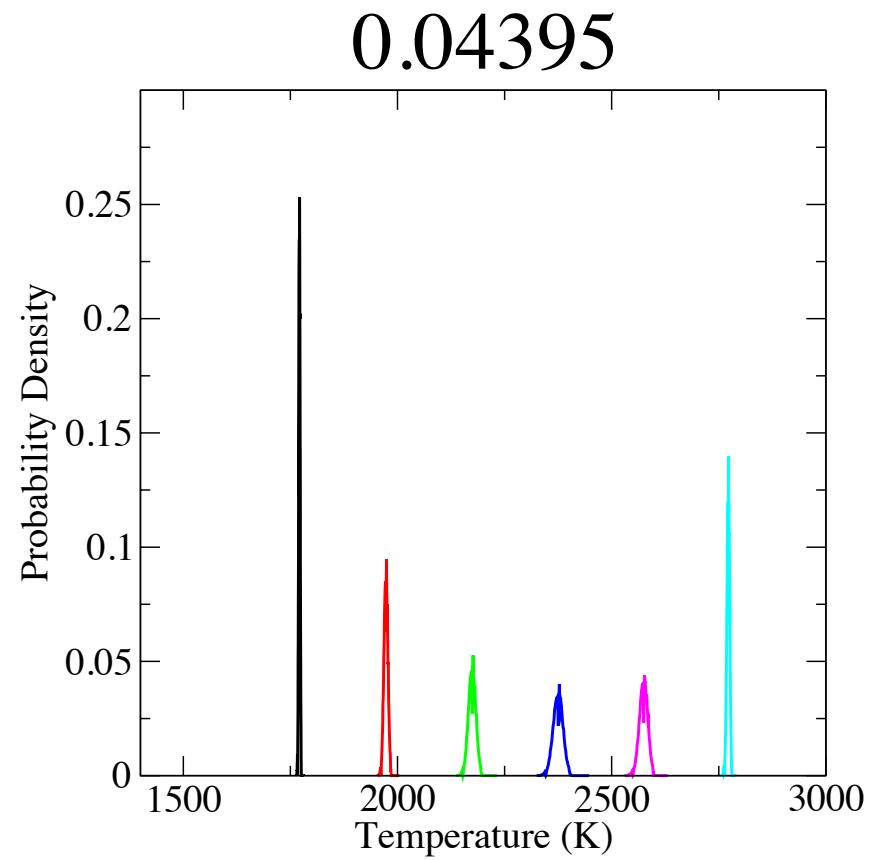
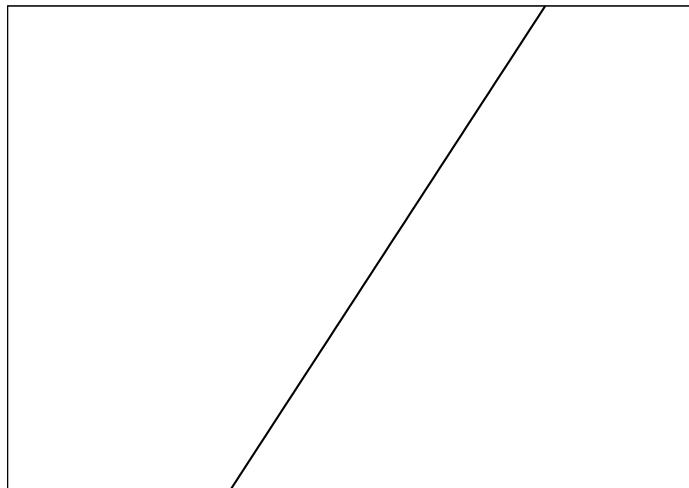
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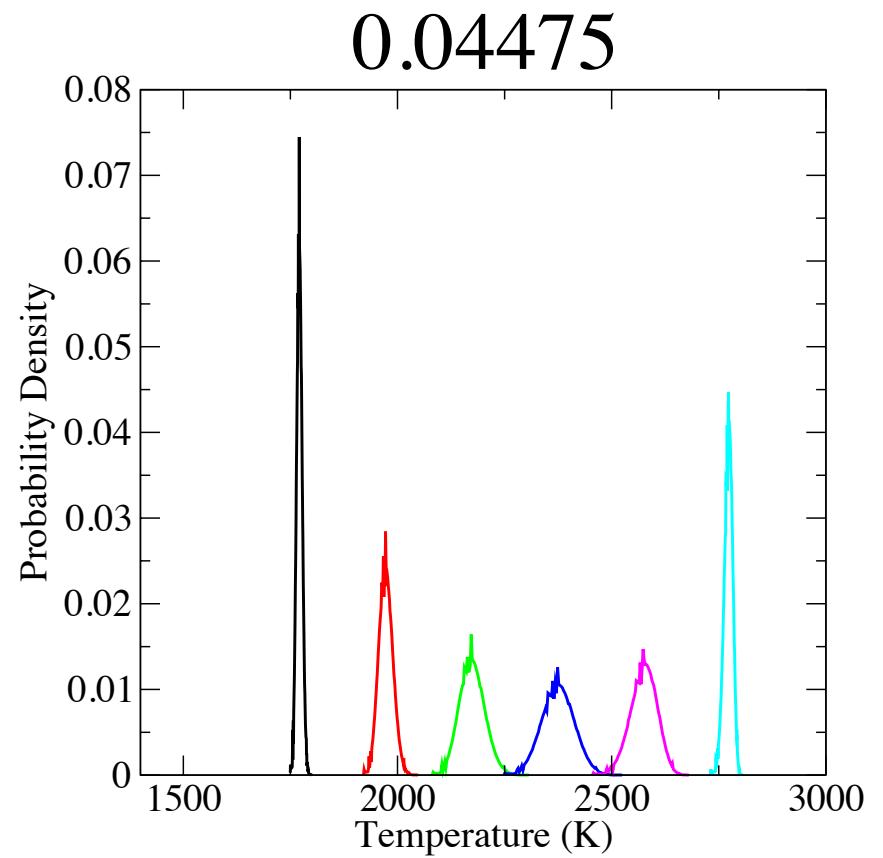
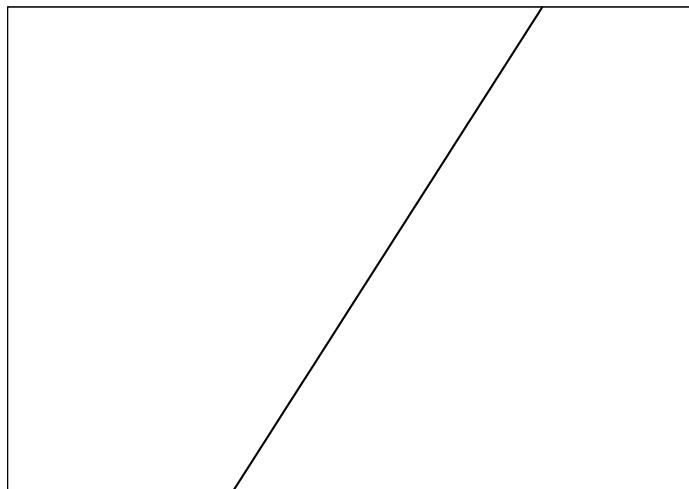
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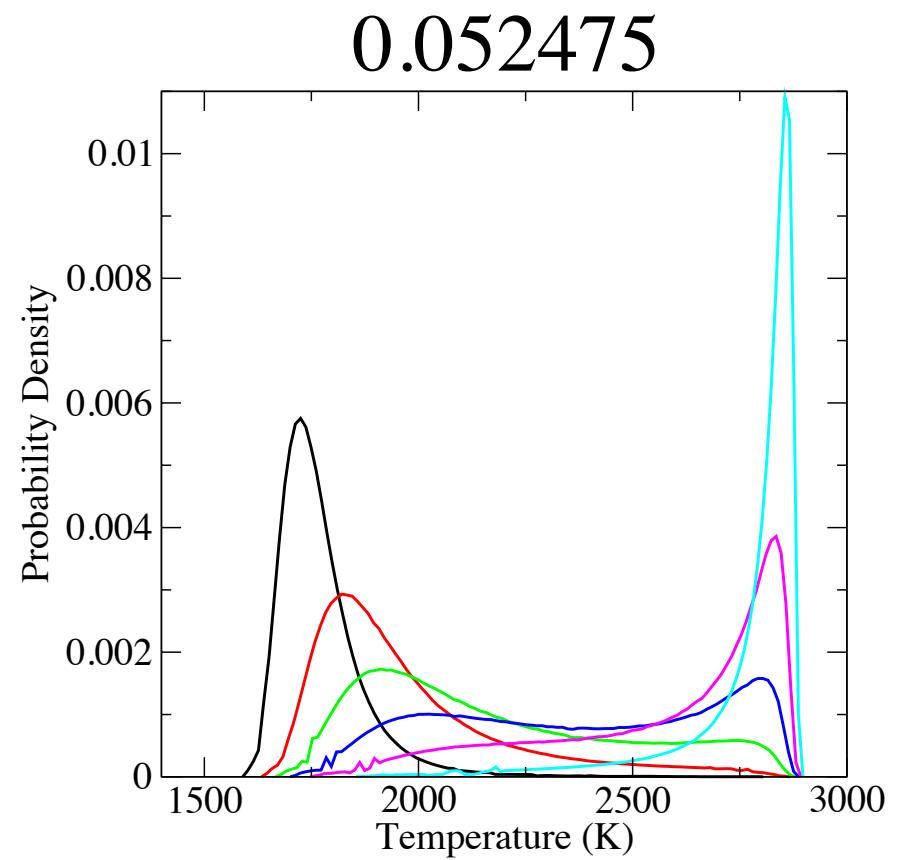
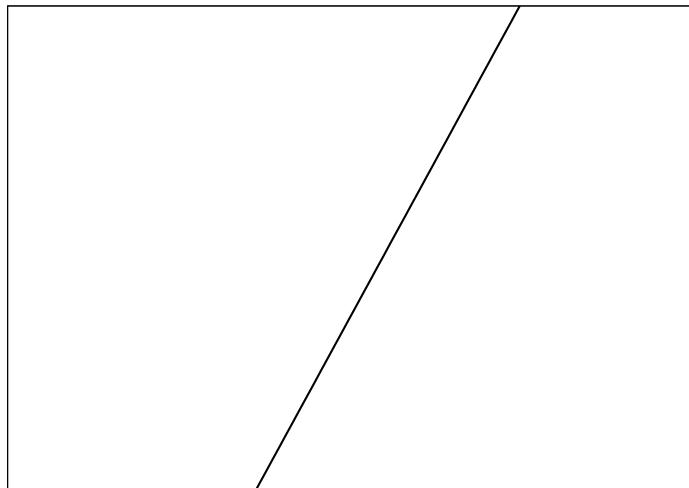
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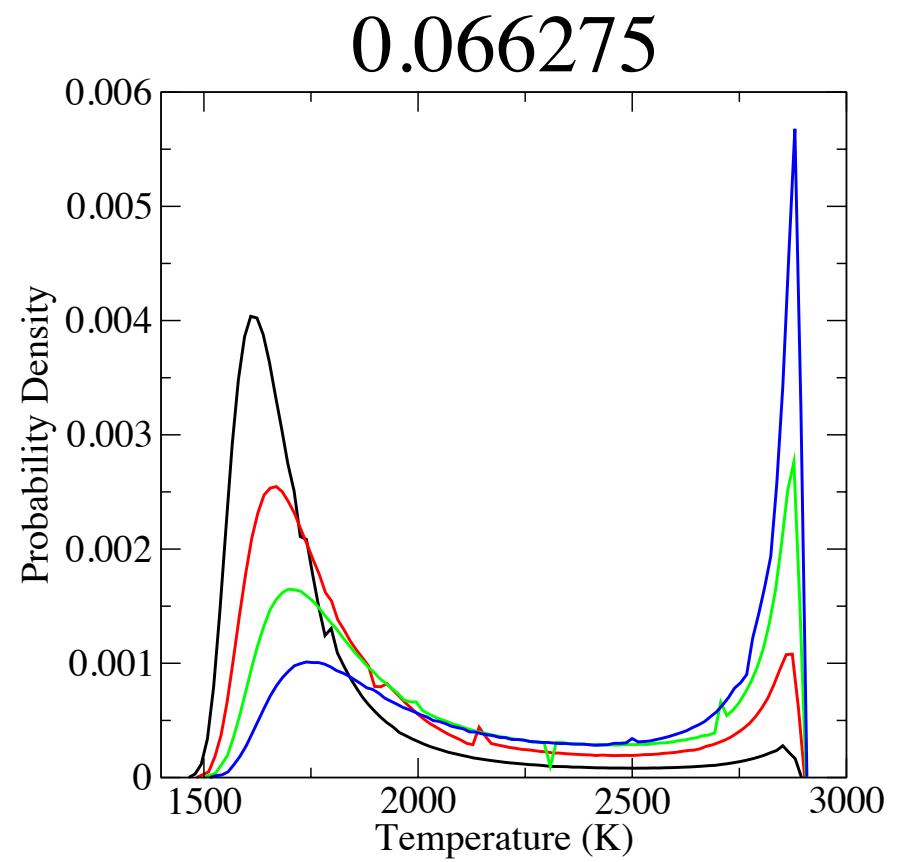
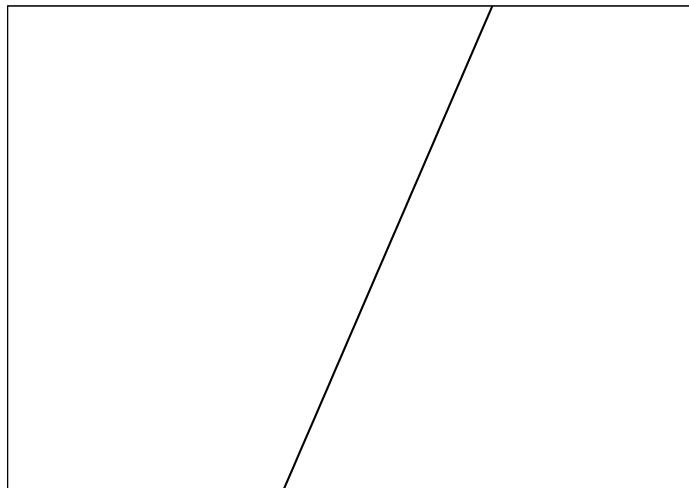
Correlation slope between uncertain parameters has a strong effect on predicted ignition transient uncertainty



Correlation slope between uncertain parameters has a strong effect on predicted ignition transient uncertainty



Correlation slope between uncertain parameters has a strong effect on predicted ignition transient uncertainty



Overview

- Introduction
- Basic methods for uncertainty quantification
- Application to chemical kinetics
- **Advanced uncertainty quantification topics**
 - Model validation
 - Surrogate models
 - High-dimensional systems
 - Discontinuities / non-linearities
 - Data free inference

Model validation approaches

- *Model sanity checks:*

- Posterior predictive check

$$P(d|D, M) = \int P(d|\theta, D, M)P(\theta|D, M)d\theta$$

- Compare posterior predictions of quantities of interest versus existing/new data sets
 - Perform cross-validation
 - Model discrepancy terms

$$d_i = f_i(m(\theta) + \delta_m(\theta)) + \sigma_i \varepsilon$$

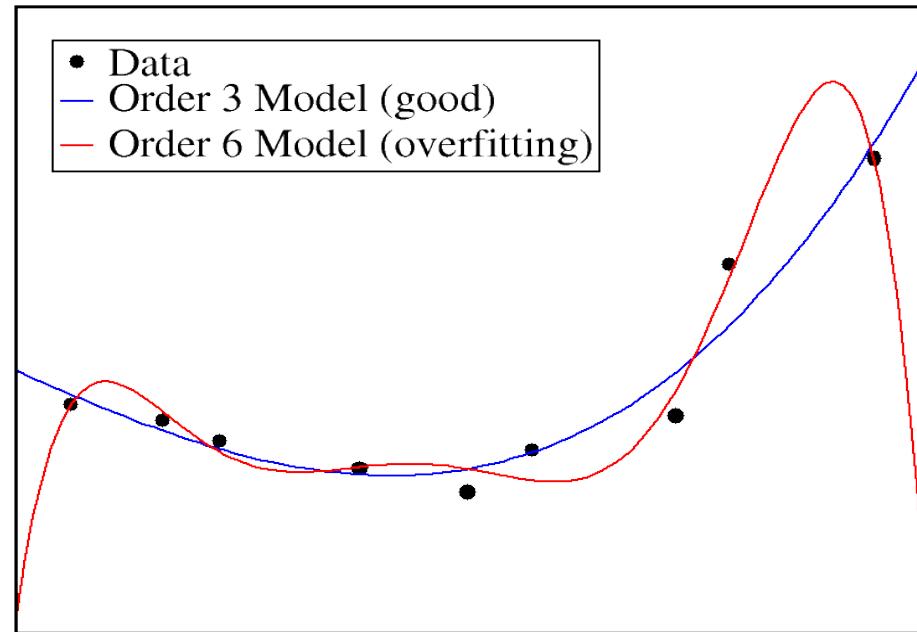
- Discover structural deficiencies in forward model
 - Enrich model until model discrepancy term small enough

- *Model comparison and plausibility*

- How adequate is the model for the given dataset, irrespective of model parameters?

Model evidence term combines goodness-of-fit and model complexity

- Likelihood marginalized over all parameters
- Represents Ockham's razor



$$P(D|M) = \int P(D|\theta, M) P(\theta|M) d\theta$$

$$\log P(D|M) = \overbrace{\int P(\theta|D, M) \log P(D|\theta, M) d\theta}^{\text{average posterior fit}} - \overbrace{\int P(\theta|D, M) \log \frac{P(\theta|D, M)}{P(\theta|M)} d\theta}^{\text{model complexity penalty}}$$

Relative entropy or information gain between prior and posterior

Model comparison is based on model evidence term

- Model Selection: evidence ratio (Bayes Factor)

$$BF = \frac{P(D | M_1)}{P(D | M_2)}$$

- Model Averaging: based on plausibility for robust predictions

$$M = \{M_i, i = 1, \dots, N_M\}$$

$$P(M_i | D) \propto P(D | M_i) P(M_i)$$

$$P(q | D, M) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_M} P(q | D, M_i) P(M_i | D)$$

Beck and Yuen (2004), Cheung *et al* (2011).

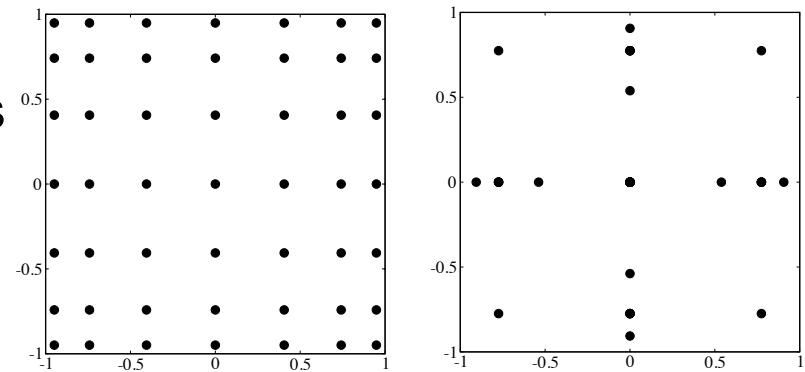
Polynomial Chaos (PC) as a cheap surrogate model

- Input parameter $\theta = \theta_0 + \theta_1 \xi \quad \xi \in [-1, 1]$
- Model output $m(\theta) \approx \sum_k m_k \Psi_k(\xi)$

$\Psi_k(\xi)$ are, e.g., Legendre orthogonal polynomials
- PC modes m_k can be found by
 - orthogonal projection
 - simulate the model at specific parameter values (quadrature)
 - fails for noisy model outputs
 - Bayesian inference
 - works with any set of model simulations
 - robust with respect to noisy outputs
 - leads to random PC modes, i.e. stochastic surrogate model
 - BUT, good accuracy may require prohibitively many simulations

Some outstanding challenges in UQ

- **High-dimensional systems**
 - (Adaptive) sparse quadrature rules
 - Dimensionality reduction methods
- **Discontinuities or strong non-linearities**
 - Make global PC expansions fail
 - Domain or data decomposition
 - Infer parameterization of discontinuity and represent smooth function on both sides
- **Data to infer full probabilistic description of model inputs often not available**
 - Mean and standard deviation may be only thing known
 - Use Data-Free-Inference (DFI) to determine full distribution



Summary

- UQ is an essential component of predictive simulations
 - Assess confidence in model predictions
 - Resource allocation for fidelity improvement
- Many mature approaches available for propagating uncertainties through computational models
- Accurate characterization of the input uncertainties is essential
 - Joint distribution between inputs needed
- Model comparison approaches are emerging
- Many challenges remain

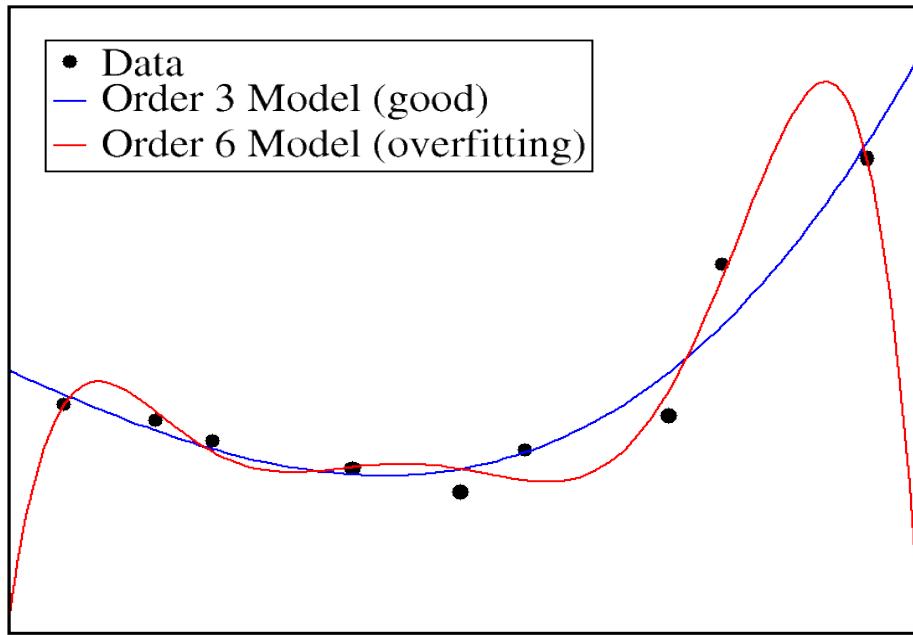
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References

Supplementary Material

Ockham's Razor



Relative entropy
or
information gain between
prior and posterior

$$\log P(D|M) = \overbrace{\int P(\theta|D, M) \log P(D|\theta, M) d\theta}^{\text{average posterior fit}} - \overbrace{\int P(\theta|D, M) \log \frac{P(\theta|D, M)}{P(\theta|M)} d\theta}^{\text{model complexity penalty}}$$

Model Evidence balances data fit and model complexity,
i.e. penalizes against overfitting

Non-intrusive spectral projection (NISP) to obtain Polynomial Chaos representation for observables

- Observable is statistical property $y = \langle f(\mathbf{X}(\boldsymbol{\lambda})) \rangle$
- (Truncated) Polynomial Chaos (PC) expansions spectrally represent dependence on uncertain inputs $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$

$$y(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \sum_{k=0}^P c_k \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\eta}_1, \boldsymbol{\eta}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{N_{\text{dim}}}) \quad P+1 = \frac{(N_{\text{dim}} + N_{\text{ord}})!}{(N_{\text{dim}}! N_{\text{ord}}!)}$$

- Basis functions Ψ are orthogonal polynomials in standard random variables $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ allowing Galerkin projections

$$c_k = \frac{\langle y(\boldsymbol{\lambda}(\boldsymbol{\eta})) \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \rangle}{\langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle} = \frac{\int y(\boldsymbol{\lambda}(\boldsymbol{\eta})) \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\eta}) p(\boldsymbol{\eta}) d\boldsymbol{\eta}}{\langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle} = \frac{\sum_i w_i y(\boldsymbol{\lambda}(\boldsymbol{\eta}_i)) \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\eta}_i)}{\langle \Psi_k^2 \rangle}$$

- Sparse quadrature needed for high-dimensional systems

Bayesian methods offer a probabilistic framework well suited to infer PC coefficients from noisy data

$$\underbrace{p(\mathbf{c}|D)}_{\text{Posterior}} \propto \underbrace{p(D|\mathbf{c})}_{\text{Likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\mathbf{c})}_{\text{Prior}} \quad D = \{y_i\}_{i=1}^N$$

- Assume uniformly distributed priors
- Gaussian likelihood
 - With σ estimated from Central Limit Theorem or inferred
- Posterior is explored using Markov Chain Monte Carlo sampling
 - Maximum a posteriori (MAP) parameter estimate used

$$\mathbf{c}^{\text{MAP}} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{c}} p(\mathbf{c}|D)$$

- Width of posterior shows confidence in inferred parameters for given amount of data
- Generate data by sampling system at locations of sparse quadrature points

Karhunen-Loève (KL) decomposition expands X in terms of the eigenfunctions of its covariance function

$$C(t_1, t_2) = \langle (X(t_1, \theta) - \bar{X}(t_1))(X(t_2, \theta) - \bar{X}(t_2)) \rangle$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda_k X_k(t_1) X_k(t_2)$$

$$\int_{T_0}^{T_1} C(t_1, t_2) X_k(t_1) dt_1 = \lambda_k X_k(t_2)$$

$$X(t, \theta) = \bar{X}(t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_k} X_k(t) \xi_k \quad t \in [T_0, T_1]$$

- $X_k(t)$: orthonormal eigenfunctions of the covariance function
- λ_k : corresponding eigenvalues
- ξ_k : uncorrelated, zero-mean, unit-variance random variables
- Covariance function obtained from sampled system trajectories

Uncertain and stochastic dynamical systems

- Two types of uncertainty
 - Reducible (epistemic): can be reduced by additional or better measurements
 - Irreducible (aleatory): due to inherent stochasticity in the system
- Some examples
 - Reaction rate constants in combustion mechanism
 - Physical property values in a solid mechanics problem
 - Turbulent eddies around an airplane wing
 - Small scale variabilities (weather) in a global circulation model
 - Chemical reactions between a small number of molecules
- Uncertainty Quantification (UQ) propagates characterized uncertainties through system model
- Sensitivity analysis determines influence of each parameter on the observables of interest

Stochastic processes can be represented in PC form using a Karhunen-Loève decomposition

- For example: random variability in a temperature boundary condition
- Model random variability as: $T = T_0 \times [1 + g(x, \theta)]$
- Assume stochastic process has autocorrelation function

$$C(|x_1 - x_2|) = \sigma_g^2 \exp(-|x_1 - x_2|/L_c)$$

- $g(x, \theta)$ is written in terms of the eigenfunctions $C_k(x)$ of the autocorrelation function C using a Karhunen-Loève decomposition

$$g(x, \theta) = \langle g \rangle + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_k} C_k(x) \xi_k \Rightarrow g(x, \theta) \approx \sum_{k=0}^{N_{KL}} g_k(x) \Psi_k(\theta)$$