

This paper describes objective technical results and analysis. Any subjective views or opinions that might be expressed in the paper do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. Department of Energy or the United States Government.

## **Impact of Sampling Strategies in the Polynomial Chaos Surrogate Construction for Monte Carlo Transport Applications**

**Gianluca Geraci and Aaron J. Olson**

**The International Conference on Mathematics and Computational Methods Applied to Nuclear Science and Engineering (ANS M&C 2021)**

**Virtual Event  
October 4th, 2021**



## PLAN OF THE TALK

- MOTIVATION AND BACKGROUND
- POLYNOMIAL CHAOS EXPANSION
- SAMPLING STRATEGIES
- NUMERICAL RESULTS
- CONCLUDING REMARKS

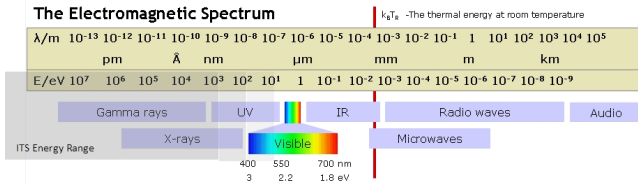
## **Motivation and background**

# UNCERTAINTY QUANTIFICATION FOR RADIATION TRANSPORT

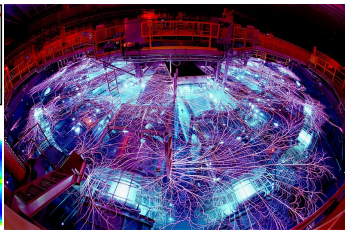
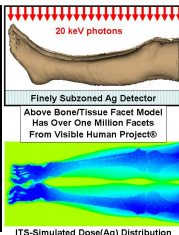
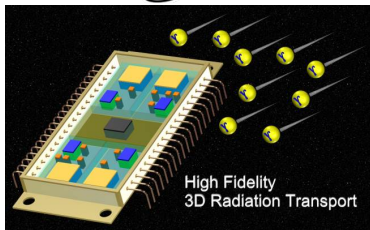
## CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES



### The Electromagnetic Spectrum



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Figures courtesy of Brian Franke and Shawn Pautz

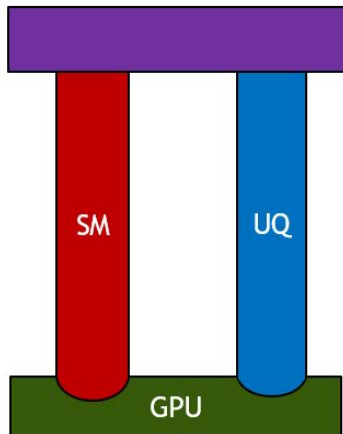
High-fidelity state-of-the-art modeling and simulations with HPC

- ▶ Predictive science needs Uncertainty Quantification (UQ)
- ▶ UQ under severe simulations budget constraints
- ▶ Significant dimensionality driven by model complexity

# NEXT-GENERATION MONTE CARLO PROJECT

## OVERVIEW

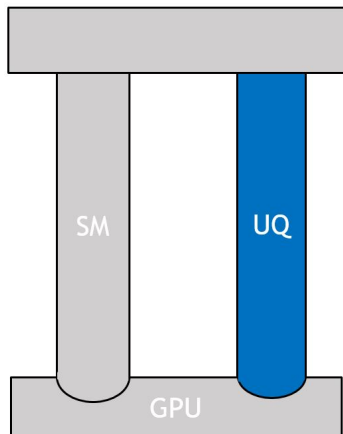
Develop efficient, embedded **Stochastic Media (SM)** and **Uncertainty Quantification (UQ)** Monte Carlo transport methods for the **GPU**.



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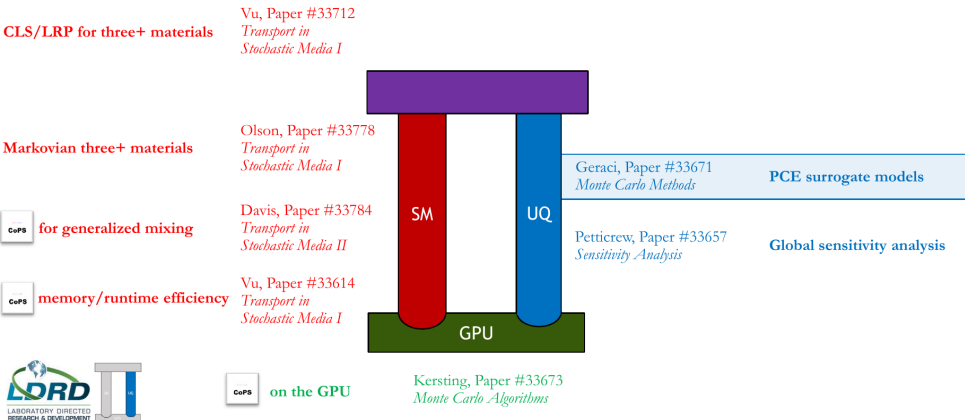
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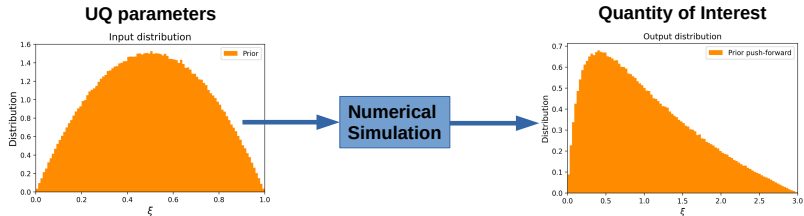
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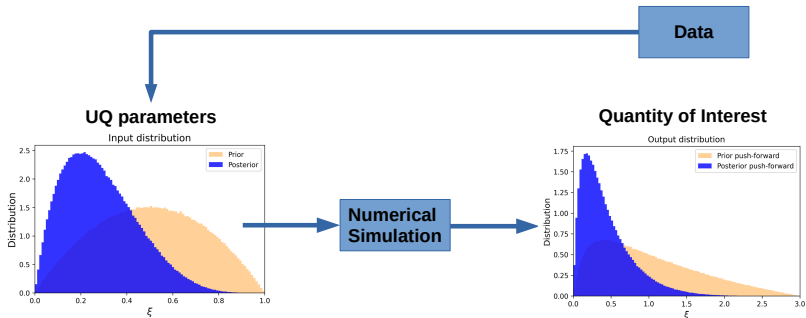


on the GPU



## Uncertainty Quantification:

- ▶ UQ main tasks: **Forward** and **Inverse**
- ▶ **Forward UQ:** Propagation of (known) parameter distributions through numerical code



### Uncertainty Quantification:

- ▶ UQ main tasks: **Forward** and **Inverse**
- ▶ **Forward UQ:** Propagation of (known) parameter distributions through numerical code
- ▶ **Inverse UQ:** Infer posterior distributions from observational data (Bayes rule)

### Forward UQ via surrogate modeling:

- ▶ Statistics  $\rightarrow$  **large number of QoI realizations**
- ▶ Computational burden **can be alleviated** by replacing the original code **with a surrogate**

# **Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE)**



### Polynomial Chaos

- ▶ **UQ parameters:**  $\xi \in \Xi \subset \mathbb{R}^d$
- ▶ **Joint pdf:**  $p(\xi)$  (independent components)
- ▶ **QoI:**  $Q = Q(\xi) \in \mathbb{R}$
- ▶ **Polynomial Chaos Expansion**

$$Q(\xi) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \beta_k \Psi_k(\xi) \approx \sum_{k=0}^P \beta_k \Psi_k(\xi) = Q^{PCE}(\xi), \quad \text{with } P + 1 = \frac{(n_0 + d)!}{n_0! d!} \quad \text{and}$$

$n_0$  being the **total order** of the expansion.

- ▶ Polynomial basis  $\Psi_k$  is selected to be **orthogonal w.r.t.**  $p(\xi)$



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### Remarks

- ▶ **Statistics can be obtained in close form** or by sampling  $Q^{PCE}$  directly, e.g.

$$\mathbb{E}[Q] = \beta_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}[Q] = \sum_{k=1}^P \beta_k^2 \mathbb{E}[\Psi_k^2]$$

- ▶ **Coefficients evaluation:**
  - ▶ **Regression:** L2 (ordinary least-square) or L1 (sparse) minimization
  - ▶ **Spectral projection:** multidimensional integration



Spectral projection  $\rightarrow$  Non-Intrusive Spectral Projection (NISP)

$$\mathbb{E}[\Psi_k \Psi_\ell] = \int_{\Xi} \Psi_k \Psi_\ell p(\xi) d\xi = b_k \delta_{k\ell} \quad \rightarrow \quad \beta_k = \frac{\mathbb{E}[Q \Psi_k]}{b_k}$$



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**Radiation transport features**

- ▶ **Large dimensionality**, *i.e.* large number of uncertainty sources, random fields, *etc.*
- ▶ **Noisy response**  $Q(\xi)$ : MC transport solvers (more on this later)



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# **Sampling Strategies**



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- ▶ **UQ parameters:**  $\xi \in \Xi \subset \mathbb{R}^d$
- ▶ **MC transport (internal) randomness:**  $\eta \in H \subset \mathbb{R}^{d'}$
- ▶ **Particle histories** are interpreted as elementary events:  $f = f(\xi, \eta)$
- ▶ **RT QoI:** Average of  $f$  over the histories for a fixed UQ parameters realization:

$$Q(\xi) = \mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)]$$
$$\stackrel{MC RT}{\approx} \frac{1}{N_\eta} \sum_{j=1}^{N_\eta} f(\xi, \eta^{(j)}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \tilde{Q}(\xi)$$

**NOTES:**

- ▶ In the limit of  $N_\eta \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\tilde{Q}(\xi) \rightarrow Q(\xi)$
- ▶ ... but we do have **limited histories**



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**Questions:**

**Q1:** How do we **propagate the effect** of a limited number of histories?

**Q2:** What is the **impact of this 'error'** in the PCE coefficients/surrogate?



**Step 1. Introducing the MC transport QoI definition:**

$$\begin{aligned}\beta_k &= \frac{1}{b_k} \mathbb{E}_\xi [Q(\xi) \Psi_k(\xi)] \\ &= \frac{1}{b_k} \mathbb{E}_\xi [\mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)] \Psi_k(\xi)]\end{aligned}$$



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$$\begin{aligned}\beta_k &= \frac{1}{b_k} \mathbb{E}_\xi [\mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)] \Psi_k(\xi)] \\ &= \frac{1}{b_k} \frac{1}{N_\xi} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\xi} \left[ \mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi^{(i)}, \eta)] \Psi_k(\xi^{(i)}) \right] \\ &= \boxed{\frac{1}{b_k} \frac{1}{N_\xi} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\xi} \left[ \frac{1}{N_\eta} \sum_{j=1}^{N_\eta} f(\xi^{(i)}, \eta^{(j)}) \Psi_k(\xi^{(i)}) \right]} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \hat{\beta}_k\end{aligned}$$



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$\hat{\beta}_k$  is an unbiased estimator



$$\hat{\beta}_k = \frac{1}{b_k} \frac{1}{N_\xi} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\xi} \left[ \frac{1}{N_\eta} \sum_{j=1}^{N_\eta} f(\xi^{(i)}, \eta^{(j)}) \Psi_k(\xi^{(i)}) \right] = \frac{1}{b_k} \frac{1}{N_\xi} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\xi} [\tilde{Q}(\xi^{(i)}) \Psi_k(\xi^{(i)})]$$



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Variance starting from the noisy RT QoI

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Law of total variance (hint of derivation) –  $\text{Var} [\cdot] = \text{Var} [\mathbb{E}_\eta [\cdot]] + \mathbb{E} [\text{Var}_\eta [\cdot]]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var} [\tilde{Q}(\xi; \eta) \Psi_k] &= \text{Var} [\mathbb{E}_\eta [\tilde{Q}(\xi; \eta) \Psi_k(\xi)]] + \mathbb{E} [\text{Var}_\eta [\tilde{Q}(\xi; \eta) \Psi_k(\xi)]] \\ &= \text{Var} [\mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)] \Psi_k(\xi)] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\text{Var}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)]}{N_\eta} \Psi_k^2(\xi) \right] \\ &= \text{Var} [Q(\xi) \Psi_k(\xi)] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\sigma_\eta^2(\xi)}{N_\eta} \Psi_k^2(\xi) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\text{Var} [\hat{\beta}_k] = \frac{1}{b_k^2} \frac{\text{Var} [Q(\xi) \Psi_k(\xi)] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\sigma_\eta^2(\xi)}{N_\eta} \Psi_k^2(\xi) \right]}{N_\xi}$$

NOTES:

- ▶ The **true variance** is polluted by the (average) **noise** introduced by limited histories
- ▶ The **noise** is the variance of the inner MC RT estimator



**Q:** Is there a **best sampling strategy** in this context?

$$\beta_k = \frac{\mathbb{E}[Q\Psi_k]}{b_k} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b_k} \mathbb{E}_\xi [\mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)] \Psi_k(\xi)] \approx \frac{1}{b_k} \frac{1}{N_\xi} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\xi} \left( \frac{1}{N_\eta} \sum_{j=1}^{N_\eta} f(\xi^{(i)}, \eta^{(j)}) \Psi_k(\xi^{(i)}) \right) \triangleq \hat{\beta}_k^n \quad (\text{Nested}) \\ \frac{1}{b_k} \mathbb{E} [f(\xi, \eta) \Psi_k(\xi)] \approx \frac{1}{b_k} \frac{1}{N_{real}} \sum_{r=1}^{N_{real}} (f(\xi^{(r)}, \eta^{(r)}) \Psi_k(\xi^{(r)})) \triangleq \hat{\beta}_k^d \quad (\text{Direct}). \end{cases}$$



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**Cost comparison** ( $N_{real} = N_\xi \times N_\eta$ ):

$$\text{Var} [\hat{\beta}_k^n] = \frac{1}{b_k^2} \frac{\text{Var} [Q(\xi) \Psi_k(\xi)] + \frac{1}{N_\eta} \mathbb{E} [\sigma_\eta^2(\xi) \Psi_k^2(\xi)]}{N_\xi} = \frac{1}{b_k^2} \frac{N_\eta \text{Var} [Q(\xi) \Psi_k(\xi)] + \mathbb{E} [\sigma_\eta^2(\xi) \Psi_k^2(\xi)]}{N_{real}}$$

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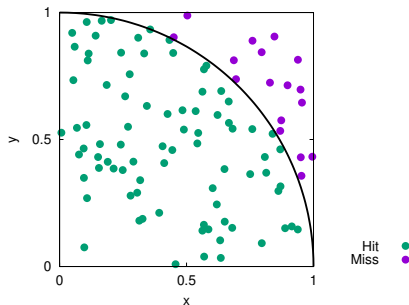
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**Main Result:**  $\text{Var} [\hat{\beta}_k^d] < \text{Var} [\hat{\beta}_k^n]$  for  $N_\eta > 1$  (for the same cost)



Valid under the assumption: no start-up cost

## **Numerical Results**



- ▶ **Quarter of circle** inscribed in a unitary square
- ▶ **UQ parameters:**  $\xi \sim \mathcal{U}(-1, 1)$
- ▶ **Darts:**  $\eta = [\eta_x, \eta_y]^T$
- ▶ **Elementary evaluation:**  $f = 1$  for hit and  $f = 0$  otherwise
- ▶ **QoI (area):**  $Q(\xi) = \mathbb{E}_\eta [f(\xi, \eta)]$

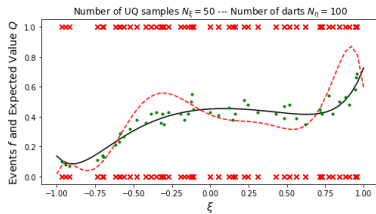
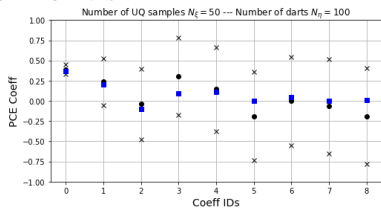
$$\text{Area: } Q(\xi) = \frac{\pi}{4} r^2(\xi), \quad \text{where } r^2(\xi) = \frac{23 + 3\xi - 18\xi^2 + 12\xi^3 + 17\xi^8}{40}.$$



Finite spectral content (P=8)

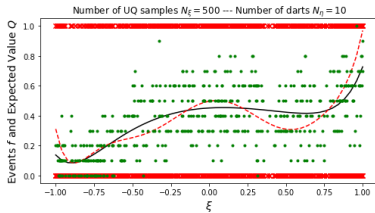
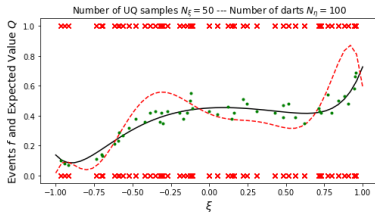
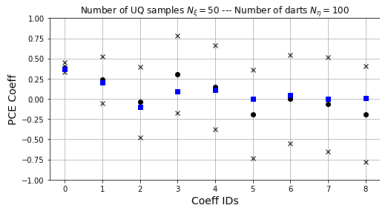
# VERIFICATION TEST

## PCE COEFFICIENTS



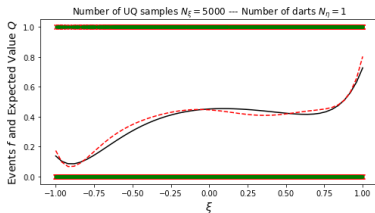
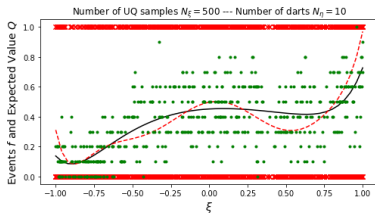
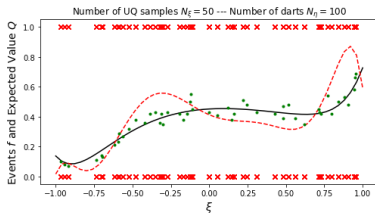
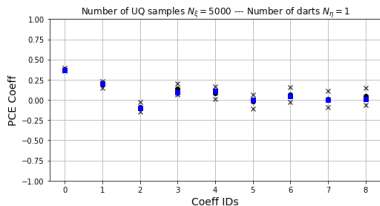
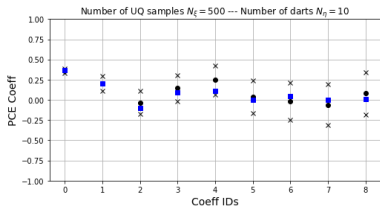
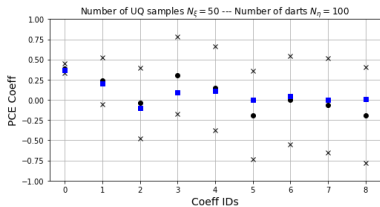
# VERIFICATION TEST

## PCE COEFFICIENTS



# VERIFICATION TEST

## PCE COEFFICIENTS





- ▶ 1D slab, neutral particle, **absorption-only** mono-energetic steady state radiation transport
- ▶ Normally incident beam with unitary magnitude
- ▶ **Random material cross sections**:  $\Sigma_{t,m}(\xi_m) = \Sigma_{t,m}^0 + \Sigma_{t,m}^\Delta \xi_m$ , where  $\xi_m \sim \mathcal{U}(-1, 1)$
- ▶ The **QoI** is the **transmittance**:  $T(\xi) = \psi(L, 1, \xi)$

$$\mu \frac{\partial \psi(x, \mu, \xi)}{\partial x} + \Sigma_t(x, \xi) \psi(x, \mu, \xi) = 0, \quad \text{where } 0 \leq x \leq L;$$

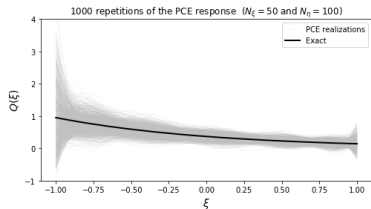
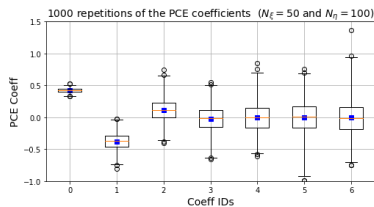
**Analytical solution:**

$$T(\xi) = \exp \left[ - \sum_{m=1}^d \Sigma_{t,m}(\xi_m) \Delta x_m \right] = \exp [-\tau(\xi)],$$

- ▶ **Uncertain slab optical thickness**:  $\tau(\xi)$
- ▶  **$m$ th material thickness**:  $\Delta x_m$

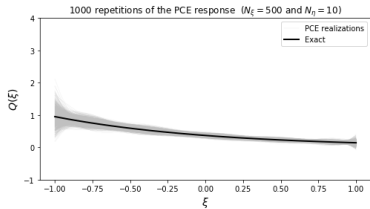
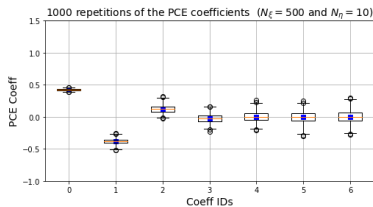
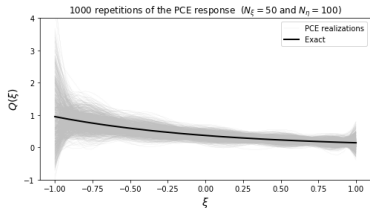
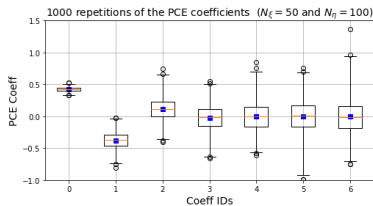
**Exact solution** ( $n$ th raw moment)

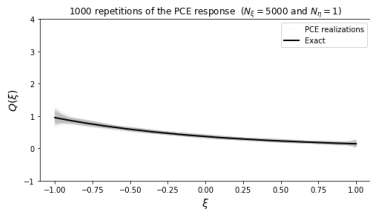
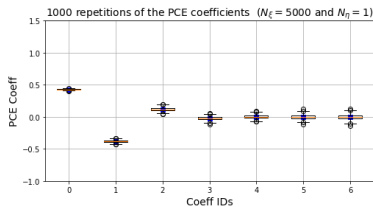
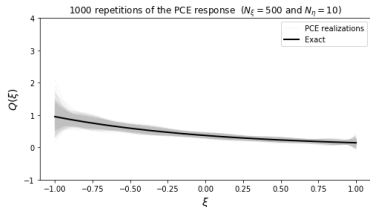
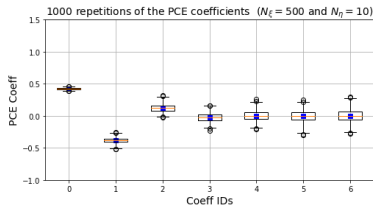
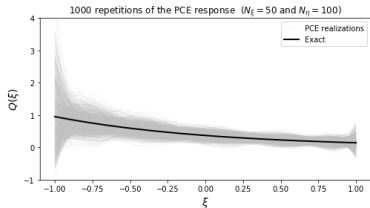
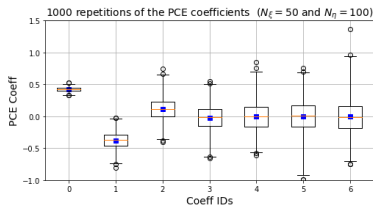
$$\mathbb{E} [T^n] = \int_{[-1,1]^d} T^n(\xi) p(\xi) \, d\xi = \prod_{m=1}^d \exp \left[ -n \Sigma_{t,m}^0 \Delta x_m \right] \frac{\sinh \left[ n \Sigma_{t,m}^\Delta \Delta x_m \right]}{n \Sigma_{t,m}^\Delta \Delta x_m}.$$

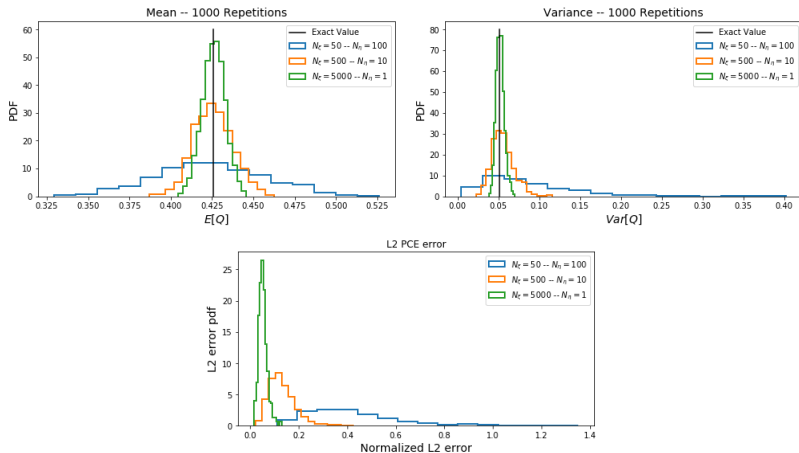


# RADIATION TRANSPORT

## CASE 1: SINGLE MATERIAL SECTION – PCE COEFFICIENTS

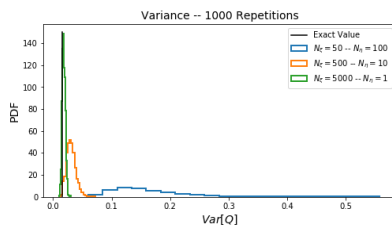
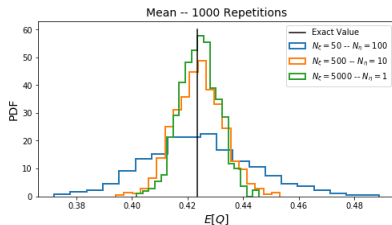






PCE stat $N_\eta$	Exp. Value			CoV			Exact Value
	1	10	100	1	10	100	
Mean	4.260E-1	4.257E-1	4.240E-1	1.642E-2	2.766E-2	7.784E-2	4.258E-1
Variance	5.209E-2	5.548E-2	8.396E-2	9.557E-2	2.412E-1	6.538E-1	5.151E-2
$L^2$ error	5.217E-2	1.293E-01	3.968E-01	3.358E-01	4.052E-1	4.207E-1	–

**TABLE: 1D Radiation transport ( $d = 1$ ): Statistics for the distributions.**



PCE stat $N_\eta$	Exp. Value			CoV			Exact Value
	1	10	100	1	10	100	
Mean	4.241E-1	4.241E-1	4.242E-1	1.634E-2	2.079E-2	4.497E-2	4.240E-1
Variance	1.832E-2	3.106E-2	1.605E-1	1.426E-1	2.600E-1	4.069E-1	1.546E-2

**TABLE: 1D Radiation transport ( $d = 3$ ): Statistics for the distributions.**

## **Concluding Remarks**



### Summary:

- ▶ **Hybrid Sampling-PCE methods** are promising thanks to their **scalability**
- ▶ Direct sampling  $(\xi, \eta)$  has **provably less variance** than a nested approach
- ▶ CIs for PCE coefficients can be propagated to obtain/**estimate surrogate variability**
- ▶ **Radiation Transport** is a particular instance of **stochastic solvers** (other examples are cybersecurity, turbulent/combustion flows, subscale modelling etc.)

- 1 G. Geraci, L.P. Swiler, B.J. Debusschere, *Multifidelity UQ Sampling for Stochastic Simulations*, 16th U.S. National Congress on Computational Mechanics, 2021.



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### Work-in-progress

- ▶ Law-of-total variance, as derived here, allows for a **variance deconvolution**
  - 2 K.B. Clements, G. Geraci and A.J. Olson, *A Variance deconvolution approach to sampling UQ for Monte Carlo radiation transport solvers*, Computer Science Research Institute Summer Proceedings, 2021. (*in preparation*)
- ▶ PCE is amenable for **Global Sensitivity Analysis** and high-order decomposition
  - 3 M. Merritt, G. Geraci, M. Eldred and T. Portone, *Hybrid multilevel Monte Carlo - polynomial chaos method for global sensitivity analysis*, Computer Science Research Institute Summer Proceedings, 2020
  - 4 G. Geraci, P.M. Congedo, R. Abgrall and G. Iaccarino, *High-order statistics in global sensitivity analysis: decomposition and model reduction* Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, 2016
- ▶ Extension of the **model cost** w.r.t initialization for each  $\xi$  (in coll. with Kayla Clements, OSU)
- ▶ Extension to **other sources of uncertainty and additional physics** (in coll. Kayla Clements, OSU)
- ▶ Efficient **parallelization on GPUs** (in coll. with Kerry Bossler and Luke Kersting, SNL and Kayla Clements, OSU)

# THANKS!

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