

# Variational Bayesian formulations with sparsity-enforcing priors for model calibration



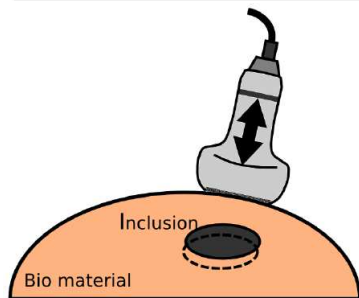
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# Motivation

Can we use (continuum) models from solid mechanics to make/assist medical diagnosis?

$$\text{Model } \mathcal{M} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Governing equation: } \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{FS}) = 0, \quad \mathcal{B} \\ \text{Boundary conditions: } \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_0, \quad \partial\mathcal{B} \\ \text{Constitutive law: } \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{C}; \boldsymbol{\Psi}) \\ \text{(In-compressibility: } J = 1) \end{array} \right.$$



→ **noisy** displacements (velocities etc)  $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$

$$\downarrow \\ \boldsymbol{\Psi} = ?$$

Bayes' rule:

$$p(\underbrace{\Psi}_{\text{material par.}} \mid \underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{u}}}_{\text{data}}, \underbrace{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{model}}) = \frac{\overbrace{p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M})}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{p(\Psi|\mathcal{M})}^{\text{prior}}}{\underbrace{p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\mathcal{M})}_{\text{evidence}}}$$

Goal: Find posterior density  $p(\Psi|\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \mathcal{M})$

- The posterior quantifies how likely a  $\Psi$  is to be the solution
- Provides a generalization over deterministic optimization strategies
- Evidence  $p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\mathcal{M})$  quantifies how likely is for the data to have arisen from our model  $\mathcal{M}$

## Bayes' rule:

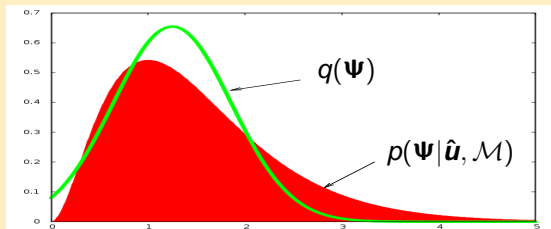
$$p(\underbrace{\Psi}_{\text{material par.}} \mid \underbrace{\hat{u}}_{\text{data}}, \underbrace{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{model}}) = \frac{\overbrace{p(\hat{u}|\Psi, \mathcal{M})}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{p(\Psi|\mathcal{M})}^{\text{prior}}}{\underbrace{p(\hat{u}|\mathcal{M})}_{\text{evidence}}}$$

## Challenges:

- computational efficiency
- regularization (i.e. prior specification)
- dimensionality reduction

# Variational Bayes

Variational inference attempts to *approximate* the posterior  $p(\Psi|\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \mathcal{M})$  with a density  $q^*(\Psi)$  (belonging to an appropriate family of distributions  $\mathcal{Q}$ ) such that (Bishop 2006):



$$q^*(\Psi) = \arg \min_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} KL(q(\Psi) || p(\Psi|\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \mathcal{M})) = - \int q(\Psi) \log \frac{p(\Psi|\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \mathcal{M})}{q(\Psi)} d\Psi$$

$$p(\underbrace{\Psi}_{\text{material par.}} \mid \underbrace{\hat{u}}_{\text{data}}, \underbrace{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{model}}) = \frac{\overbrace{p(\hat{u}|\Psi, \mathcal{M})}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{p(\Psi|\mathcal{M})}^{\text{prior}}}{\underbrace{p(\hat{u}|\mathcal{M})}_{\text{evidence}}}$$

- **Minimizing** the Kullback-Leibler divergence is equivalent to **maximizing**  $\mathcal{F}(q, \mathcal{M})$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(\hat{u}|\mathcal{M}) &= \log \int p(\hat{u}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) d\Psi \\ &\geq \int q(\Psi) \frac{p(\hat{u}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) p(\Psi|\mathcal{M})}{q(\Psi)} d\Psi \quad (\text{Jensen's inequality}) \\ &= \mathcal{F}(q, \mathcal{M}) \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\mathcal{F}(q, \mathcal{M}) = \log p(\hat{u}|\mathcal{M}) + KL(q(\Psi) || p(\Psi|\hat{u}, \mathcal{M}))$$

- If  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  implies expectation with  $q(\Psi)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(q, \mathcal{M}) &= \int q(\Psi) \log \frac{p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) p(\Psi|\mathcal{M})}{q(\Psi)} d\Psi \\ &= \langle \log p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) \rangle + \langle \log p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) \rangle - \langle \log q \rangle\end{aligned}$$

- Likelihood for data  $\hat{\mathbf{u}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$\hat{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u}(\Psi) + \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) \propto \tau^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\tau}{2} |\hat{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{u}(\Psi)|^2\right\}$$

where:

- $\mathbf{u}(\Psi)$ : model  $\mathbf{M}$ -predicted displacements for given material properties  $\Psi$
- $\mathbf{Z}$ : observation noise, e.g.  $\mathbf{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \tau^{-1} \mathbf{I})$

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}(q, \mathcal{M}) &= \int q(\Psi) \log \frac{p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) p(\Psi|\mathcal{M})}{q(\Psi)} d\Psi \\ &= \underbrace{\langle \log p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) \rangle}_{\text{difficult}} + \underbrace{\langle \log p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) \rangle - \langle \log q \rangle}_{\text{easy}}\end{aligned}$$

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- **Assumption 1:** One possible solution is to linearize  $\mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi})$  using  $\mathbf{G} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\Psi}}$  using *adjoint PDE* (Chappelle et al 2009):

$$\mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) \approx \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_0) + \mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{\Psi} - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_0)$$

- As a result:

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\boldsymbol{\Psi}, \mathcal{M}) &= -\frac{\tau}{2} |\hat{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi})|^2 \\ &= -\frac{\tau}{2} (|\mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) - \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_0)|^2 - 2(\mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) - \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_0))^T \mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{\Psi} - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_0) \\ &\quad + (\boldsymbol{\Psi} - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_0)^T \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{G}(\boldsymbol{\Psi} - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_0)) \end{aligned}$$

- **Assumption 2:** Family of approximating distributions  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{Q}$  are *multivariate Gaussians*  $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{S})$ .

## Algorithm

$$\max_{\mu, \mathbf{S}} F(q, \mathcal{M}) = \langle \log p(\hat{\mathbf{u}}|\Psi, \mathcal{M}) \rangle + \langle \log p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) \rangle - \langle \log q \rangle$$

0. Suppose a prior  $p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) \equiv \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \mathbf{S}_0)$ . Initialize  $q(\Psi) \equiv \mathcal{N}(\mu, \mathbf{S})$
1. Set  $\Psi_0 = \mu$  and linearize  $u(\Psi) \approx \mathbf{u}(\Psi_0) + \mathbf{G}(\Psi - \Psi_0)$ .
2. Update for  $q(\Psi)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{S}^{-1} &= \tau \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{S}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{S}^{-1} \mu &= \tau \mathbf{G}^T (\hat{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{u}(\Psi_0)) + \mathbf{S}_0^{-1} \mu_0\end{aligned}$$

3. Goto 1. until convergence

# Variational Bayes

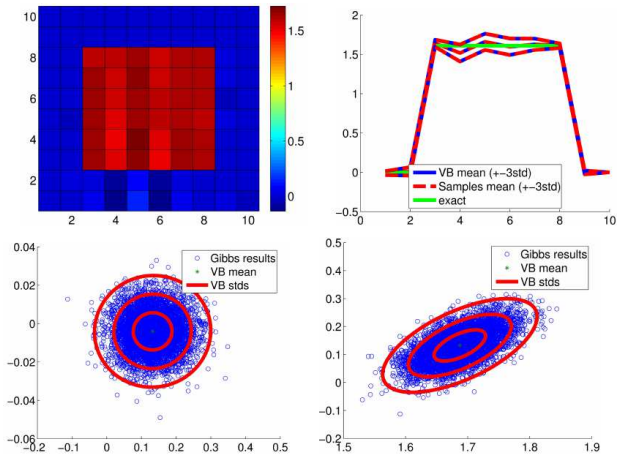


Figure: MCMC: 20,000 forward runs vs Variational Bayes: 50 forward runs

# Regularization & Dimensionality reduction

- What should the prior be for an **undetermined problem** i.e. when data  $\hat{\mathbf{u}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and unknowns  $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $N \gg n$ :

1) Smoothness-enforcing prior:

$$p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) \equiv \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \mathbf{S}_0)$$

where the covariance  $\mathbf{S}_0$  enforces some smoothness/correlation.

- How big/small should that correlation be?
- Should I be using a different norm?

2) Introduce hyper-parameter(s) that penalize the jumps between neighboring  $\Psi$ , which leads to (Bardsley 2013):

$$p(\Psi|\mathcal{M}) \propto \exp\left\{-\frac{\delta}{2} \Psi^T L \Psi\right\}, \quad L : \text{Laplacian of graph}$$

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- Can one infer  $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^N$  on a (much lower) dimensional subspace?

$$\underbrace{\Psi}_{N \times 1} = \underbrace{\mu}_{N \times 1} + \underbrace{W}_{N \times k} \underbrace{\theta}_{k \times 1}, \quad k \ll N$$

- The basis vectors  $W = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k]$  should depend on the data and the model  $\mathcal{M}$ .

- Given data  $\hat{U}$  and a forward model  $\mathcal{M}$ , the best  $(\mu, W)$  should maximize the evidence:

$$p(\hat{U}|\mathcal{M}) = p(\hat{U}|\mu, W)$$

- The advantage of the Variational Bayesian formulation adopted is that we also obtain an estimate (lower bound) on the evidence:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\hat{U}|\mathcal{M}) &\approx \mathcal{F}(q(\theta), \mu, W) \\ &= \langle \log p(\hat{U}|\theta, \mu, W) \rangle + \langle \log p(\theta|\mathcal{M}) \rangle - \langle \log q(\theta) \rangle \\ &= - \langle \frac{\tau}{2} |\hat{U} - u(\mu + W\theta)|^2 \rangle + \dots \end{aligned}$$

where the expectation  $\langle . \rangle$  is with respect to the approximate posterior  $q(\theta)$  of the reduced coordinates  $\theta$



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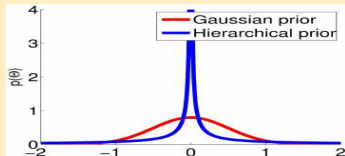
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## How can one infer the effective dimensionality $k$ ?

- Hierarchical heavy-tailed prior:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{w}_j | a_j) &\equiv \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{a}_j^{-1} \mathbf{I}_{N \times N}) \\ p(a_j) &\equiv \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta), \quad j = 1, \dots, k \end{aligned}$$



- Automatic Relevance Determination priors (ARD, MacKay 1994):  
 $a_j \rightarrow \infty$  then  $\mathbf{w}_j \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$  (i.e. basis vector  $j$  is inactive)
- Closely related to LASSO (Tibshirani 1996), Compressive Sensing (Candés et al 2006, Donoho et al 2006)

# Variational Expectation-Maximization

$$\begin{aligned} \max \mathcal{F}(q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{a}, \tau), \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{W}) &= \langle \frac{n}{2} \log \tau \rangle_{q(\tau)} - \langle \frac{\tau}{2} |\hat{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{u}(\boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{W}\boldsymbol{\theta})|^2 \rangle_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \tau)} \quad (\text{likelihood}) \\ &+ \langle \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \rangle_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta})} + \langle \log p(\mathbf{W}|\mathbf{a})p(\mathbf{a}) \rangle_{q(\mathbf{a})} \quad (\text{priors}) \\ &- \langle \log q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{a}, \tau) \rangle_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{a}, \tau)} \end{aligned}$$

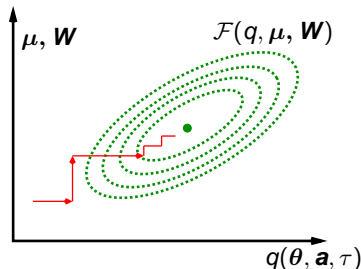
- Assumption 1: Mean-field approximation  $q(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{a}, \tau) \approx q(\boldsymbol{\theta}) q(\tau) q(\mathbf{a})$  (Wainwright 2008)
- Assumption 2: Linearize  $u(\boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{W}\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx u(\boldsymbol{\mu}) + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{W}\boldsymbol{\theta}$

## Algorithm $O(N)$ :

0. Initialize  $\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{W}$

1. Repeat until convergence:

- Fix  $\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{W}$  and update  $q(\boldsymbol{\theta}) q(\tau), q(\mathbf{a})$
- Fix  $\mathbf{W}, q(\boldsymbol{\theta}) q(\tau), q(\mathbf{a})$  and update  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$
- Fix  $\boldsymbol{\mu}, q(\boldsymbol{\theta}) q(\tau), q(\mathbf{a})$  and update  $\mathbf{W}$



# Numerical Illustration

## Example:

- large deformation, incompressible non-linear elasticity
- Mooney-Rivlin constitutive law:  $\Phi = c_1(I_1 - 3) + c_2^0(I_2 - 3) + \frac{1}{2}k(\log J)^2$
- Synthetic data from fine ( $200 \times 200$ ) mesh, contaminated  $SNR = 5 \times 10^3$
- $\dim(\Psi) = N = 25000$ , reduced-dimension  $k = 16$

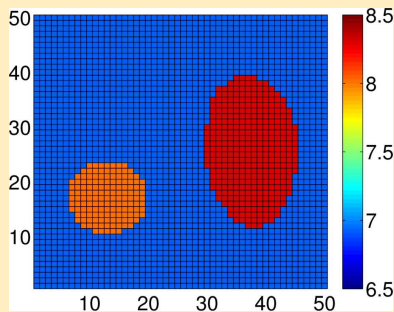
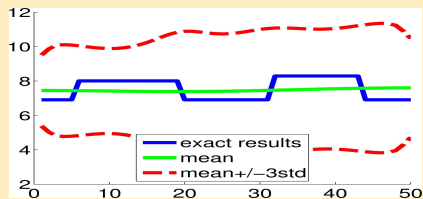


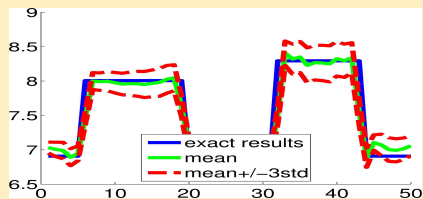
Figure: Ground truth: Log of material parameter  $c_1$

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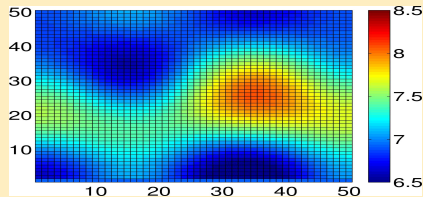
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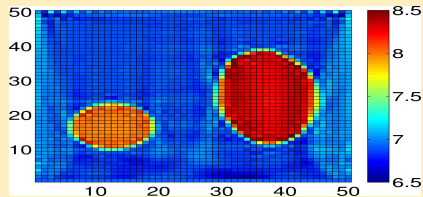
(a) Posterior along diagonal



(b) Posterior along diagonal



(c) Posterior mean



(d) Posterior mean

Figure: (Left) Without (Right) With updating  $W$

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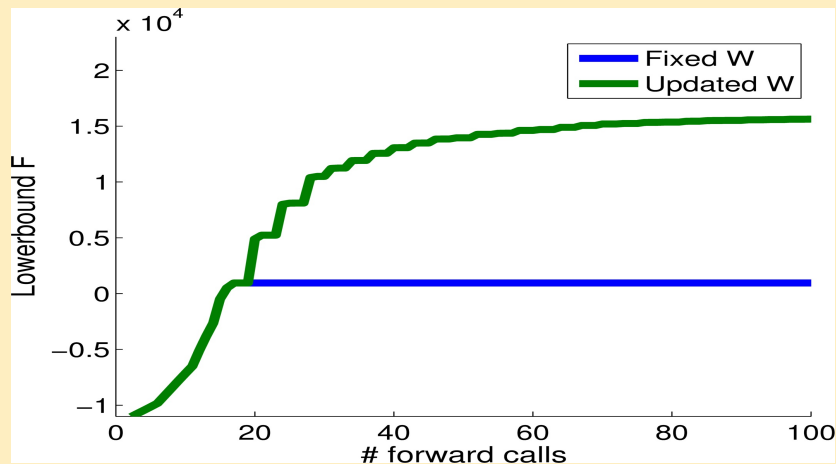
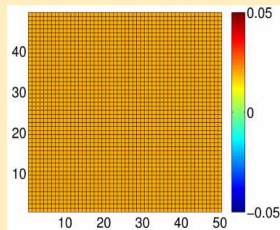
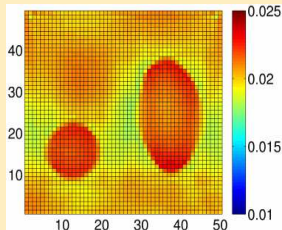


Figure: Evolution of variational objective  $\mathcal{F}$

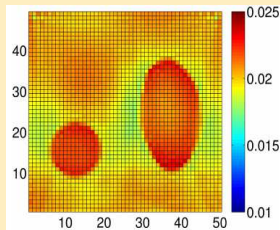
## Example:



(a) iteration 1



(b) iteration 21



(c) iteration 41

Figure: Evolution of most important (i.e. largest  $\langle \theta_j^2 \rangle$ ) basis vector in  $\mathbf{W}$

# Conclusion & Extensions

- Variational Bayesian methods offer comparable accuracy and much greater efficiency as compared to sampling (MCMC/SMC) methods
- By approximating the log-evidence one can obtain automatic regularization and enable significant dimensionality reduction.
- **Adaptivity:**
  - incorporate data sequentially
  - utilize a hierarchy of forward models
  - experimental design i.e. determine measurement locations or excitations that will maximize information intake
- **Accuracy:**
  - *Mixture models:* Consider a mixture of  $M$  reduced-representations

$$\Psi|m = \mu_m + W_m \theta_m,$$
$$\rightarrow p(\Psi|\hat{u}) = \sum_{m=1}^M \pi_m \mathcal{N}(\Psi; \mu_m + W_m \mu_{\theta_m}, W_m \mathbf{S}_{\theta_m} W_m^T)$$

- this can capture *non-Gaussian* projections
- lead to greater dimensionality reduction



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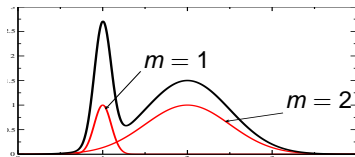
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