# Hierarchical Ensemble Kalman Methods with Sparsity-Promoting Gamma Hyperpriors

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Given data y of the form

$$y = \mathcal{G}(u) + \eta, \quad \eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Gamma),$$

where  $\mathcal{G}: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are known,

- Point estimation of *u* under sparsity assumption?
- Uncertainty quantification of *u*?

- Hierarchical Bayesian Model
- Iterative Alternating Scheme (IAS)
- **③**  $\ell_1$ -regularized Iterative Ensemble Kalman Filter ( $\ell_1$ -IEKF)
- Our Numerical Examples

- Data generating model (Likelihood)  $\implies y|u \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{G}(u), \Gamma)$
- Bayesian framework  $\implies u|\theta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, D_{\theta}), \ D_{\theta} = \mathsf{diag}(\theta)$
- Hierarchical setup  $\implies \theta_i \sim \mathsf{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta), \ 1 \leq i \leq d$
- Ultimate objective: Posterior distribution  $p(u, \theta|y)$

### Posterior Distribution

$$p(u,\theta|y) = \frac{p(y|u,\theta)p(u|\theta)p(\theta)}{p(y)} \propto \exp\left(-J(u,\theta)\right),$$
  
where  
$$J(u,\theta) := \underbrace{\frac{a}{1} \|y - \mathcal{G}(u)\|_{\Gamma}^{2} + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{D_{\theta}}^{2}}_{(b)} + \sum_{i=1}^{d} \left[\frac{\theta_{i}}{\alpha_{i}} - \left(\beta - \frac{3}{2}\right)\log\frac{\theta_{i}}{\alpha_{i}}\right]}_{(b)},$$

# Iterative Alternating Scheme (IAS)

When  $\mathcal{G}(u)$  is linear, i.e.,  $\mathcal{G}(u) = Au$  for some matrix A,

- **1** Initialize  $\theta^0$ , k = 0.
- **2** Iterate until convergence:
  - Main parameter update:

$$\begin{split} u^{k+1} &= \arg\min_{u} J(u, \theta^{k}) \\ &= \arg\min_{u} \frac{1}{2} \|y - Au\|_{\Gamma}^{2} + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{D_{\theta}^{k}}^{2} \\ &= (A^{\top} \Gamma^{-1} A + D_{\theta^{k}}^{-1})^{-1} A^{\top} \Gamma^{-1} y. \end{split}$$

Variance parameter(regularization) update:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta^{k+1} &= \arg\min_{\theta} J(u^{k+1}, \theta) \\ &= \alpha \bigg( \frac{\tilde{\beta}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{\beta}^2}{4} + \frac{(u_i^{k+1})^2}{2\alpha_i}} \bigg), \quad \tilde{\beta} = \beta - 3/2. \end{aligned}$$

- More details in [Calvetti et al., 2019].
- Nonlinear extension  $\implies \ell_1$ -regularized IEKF [Kim et al., 2023]

# Iterative Ensemble Kalman Filter (IEKF)



- IEKF is a sequential nonlinear optimization method.
- Introduce an initial ensemble (a set of particles).
- Particles are roughly updated according to a trajectory of Gauss-Newton iterates.
- After sufficient number of iterations, particles will be centered around the optimum.
- The sample mean of these particles will be our solution.

### $\ell_1$ -regularized IEKF

• In the main parameter update step:

$$\arg\min_u \frac{1}{2} \|y - \mathcal{G}(u)\|_{\Gamma}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{D_{\theta}^k}^2,$$

employ IEKF, an ensemble-based nonlinear optimization method.

- Combined with the variance parameter update, one can promote sparse structure in the solution:  $\ell_1$ -regularized version of IEKF.
- Stronger  $\ell_{p<1}\text{-}\mathsf{regularization}$  is possible with a generalized gamma hyperprior.
- Utilize particles to build approximate credible intervals.
- More details in [Kim et al., 2023].

#### Example 1: First order PDE inversion I

Consider the following partial differential equation

$$\partial_{x_1} v - \partial_{x_2} v - u(x_1)v = 0, \qquad (x_1, x_2) \in (0, 1) \times (0, 1),$$
$$v(x_1, 0) = \phi(x_1), \qquad x_1 \in [0, 1].$$

If u is continuous and  $\phi$  is continuously differentiable, then it admits the solution

$$v(x_1, x_2) = \phi(x_1 + x_2) \exp\left(\int_{x_1 + x_2}^{x_1} u(z) dz\right).$$

With  $\phi(x) = \cos(x)$ , the data y is obtained according to

$$y(x_1, x_2) = v(x_1, x_2) + \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \sim N(0, 0.1^2).$$

Our goal is to recover the function  $\boldsymbol{u}$  given the data  $\boldsymbol{y}.$  We further assume that  $\boldsymbol{u}$  admits a representation

$$u(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{30} u_j \sin(j\pi x) + \sum_{j=1}^{30} \tilde{u}_j \cos(j\pi x), \ x \in [0,1],$$

with only three components of  $\{u_j\}_{j=1}^{30}$  and  $\{\tilde{u}_j\}_{j=1}^{30}$  are nonzero.

### Example 1: first order PDE inversion III



Figure: Red: target function to recover. Blue:  $\ell_1$ -recovery. Left column: vanilla version. Middle column:  $\ell_1$ -recovery after one outer iteration. Right column:  $\ell_1$ -recovery after three outer iterations. Shaded: 2.5/97.5 percentile of the recovery.

#### Example 2: Subsurface flow inversion I

Consider the elliptic PDE, given by

$$-\mathsf{div}(e^{u(x)}\nabla v(x)) = f(x), \ x = (x_1, x_2) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$$

with boundary conditions

$$v(x_1, 0) = 100, \ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1}(1, x_2) = 0, \ -e^{u(x)}\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1}(0, x_2) = 500, \ \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2}(x_1, 1) = 0,$$

and source term

$$f(x) = f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \le x_2 \le \frac{4}{6}, \\ 137 & \frac{4}{6} < x_2 \le \frac{5}{6}, \\ 274 & \frac{5}{6} < x_2 \le 1. \end{cases}$$

The domain is discretized in a uniform  $15 \times 15$  grid in  $[0,1] \times [0,1]$ .

#### Example 2: Subsurface flow inversion II

Assume the log diffusion coefficient to be expressed as

$$u(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{i=0}^{19} \sum_{j=0}^{19} u_{ij} \phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2),$$

where  $\phi_{ij}(x_1, x_2) = \cos(i\pi x_1)\cos(j\pi x_2)$ .

- Only six components of  $\{u_{i,j}\}_{i,j=0}^{19}$  were chosen to be nonzero.
- We aim to recover  $\{u_{i,j}\}_{i,j=0}^{19} \in \mathbb{R}^{400}$  from the data

$$y(x_1, x_2) = \mathcal{G}(u(x_1, x_2)) + \eta = v(x_1, x_2) + \eta,$$

evaluated along the grid with  $\eta \sim N(0, 0.1^2).$ 

### Example 2: Subsurface flow inversion III



Figure: Parameter recovery for 2D-elliptic inverse problem based on  $\ell_1$ -IEKF. Red: Truth. Blue:  $\ell_1$ -IEKF estimate. Left column: vanilla IEKF. Middle column:  $\ell_1$ -IEKF after three outer iterations. Right column:  $\ell_1$ -IEKF after six outer iterations. Shaded: elementwise 2.5/97.5 percentile for parameter estimate.

# Summary

- Hierarchical Bayesian model with gamma hyperprior to induce sparse structure in parameter of interest.
- Under the linear model setting, one can use coordinate descent or a variational inference to approximate posterior distribution of the target parameter.
- Under the nonlinear model setting, one can use Iterative Ensemble Kalman Filter(IEKF) to solve for parameters and build approximate credible intervals using particles.
- Hierarchical Bayesian framework provides flexible regularizations tools in IEKF.
- Codes available at: https://github.com/hwkim12

#### References

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