Randomize-then-optimize, the saga continues: a sampling method for large-scale inverse problems



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- What is an 'inverse problem'?
- Bayesian solutions of inverse problems and sampling from the posterior:
  - linear cases: deblurring, tomography,
  - nonlinear cases: nonnegativity constraints, Poisson noise, PET, EIT.
- Numerical examples.

We begin by considering linear models of the form:

 $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon},$ 

- $\bullet \ {\bf b}$  is the  $n \times {\bf 1}$  data vector,
- $\bullet \, {\bf A}$  is the  $n \times n$  forward map,
- $\bullet \ {\bf x}$  is the  $n \times {\bf 1}$  unknown,
- $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$  is the  $n \times 1$  iid Gaussian noise vector.

### Some examples of linear problems

#### Data $\mathbf{b}$ examples:





#### Corresponding true images $\mathbf{x}$ :



# Naive Solutions

#### Naive solutions $A^{-1}b$ :





#### Corresponding true images $\mathbf{x}$ :



## What characterizes an inverse problem?

Consider the continuous model (pre-discretization)

b = Ax,

where b and x are functions and A is an operator.

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The singular value expansion (SVE) of A has the form

$$A(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sigma_i u_i \langle v_i, \cdot \rangle,$$

with  $(u_i, v_i)$  the left and right singular functions, and  $\sigma_i \rightarrow 0$ .

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with  $(u_i, v_i)$  the left and right singular functions, and  $\sigma_i \rightarrow 0$ . Then the SVE of  $A^{-1}$  is

$$A^{-1}(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{v_i \langle u_i, \cdot \rangle}{\sigma_i},$$

which is unbounded:  $||A^{-1}||_2^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_i}\right)^2 = \infty.$ 

After discretization, we have the matrix  ${\bf A}$  with SVD

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T.$$

with *n* large, the  $\sigma_i$ 's clustering near 0. Hence  $||\mathbf{A}^{-1}||_2$  is huge.

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The naive solution can then be written

$$A^{-1}b = A^{-1}(Ax + \epsilon)$$
  
=  $x + A^{-1}\epsilon$   
=  $x + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_{i}^{T}\epsilon}{\sigma_{i}}\right) \mathbf{v}_{i}$   
dominates

## Naive Solutions

Naive solutions  $A^{-1}b = x + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_i^{-1}(\mathbf{u}_i^T \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \mathbf{v}_i$ :



Corresponding true images  $\mathbf{x}$ :



## The Fix: Regularization



Bayes' Law:

 $\underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b},\lambda,\delta)}_{\text{posterior}} \propto \underbrace{p(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{x},\lambda)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x}|\delta)}_{\text{prior}}.$ 

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#### Bayes' Law:

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And we assume that the prior has the form

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) \propto \exp\left(-rac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}
ight),$$

The neighbor values for  $x_{ij}$  are below (in black)

$$\mathbf{x}_{\partial_{ij}} = \{x_{i-1,j}, x_{i,j-1}, x_{i+1,j}, x_{i,j+1}\} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} x_{i,j+1} \\ x_{i-1,j} & x_{ij} & x_{i+1,j} \\ & x_{i,j-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

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$$= \begin{bmatrix} x_{i,j+1} \\ x_{i-1,j} & x_{ij} & x_{i+1,j} \\ & x_{i,j-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then we assume

$$x_{i,j} | \mathbf{x}_{\partial_{i,j}} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\bar{x}_{\partial_{i,j}}, \frac{h^2}{4\delta}\right),$$

where  $\bar{x}_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}(x_{i-1,j} + x_{i,j-1} + x_{i+1,j} + x_{i,j+1}).$ 

This leads to the prior

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) \propto \delta^n \exp\left(-rac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}
ight),$$

where if r = (i, j) after column-stacking 2D arrays

$$[\mathbf{L}]_{rs} = \frac{1}{h^2} \begin{cases} 4 & s = r, \\ -1 & s \in \partial_r, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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NOTES:

- 1.  $\boldsymbol{L}$  is the negative, 2D Laplacian.
- 2. Boundary conditions must be imposed. We have considered Dirichlet, periodic, and Neumann.

The maximizer of the posterior density is

$$\mathbf{x}_{\mathsf{MAP}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 + \frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} \right\}$$

which is the regularized solution  $\mathbf{x}_{\alpha}$  with  $\alpha = \delta/\lambda$ .

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# Sampling vs. Computing the MAP



# Bayesian Hierarchical Models for $\lambda$ and $\delta$

Uncertainty in  $\lambda$  and  $\delta$ :  $\lambda \sim p(\lambda)$  and  $\delta \sim p(\delta)$ . Then  $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{b}) \propto p(\mathbf{b} | \mathbf{x}, \lambda) p(\lambda) p(\mathbf{x} | \delta) p(\delta)$ ,

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is the Bayesian posterior, where

$$p(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{x},\lambda) \propto \lambda^{n/2} \exp\left(-rac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2
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$$p(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{x},\lambda) \propto \lambda^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2}\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{b}\|^2
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 $p(\mathbf{x}|\delta) \propto \delta^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}
ight).$ 

$$p(\lambda) \propto \lambda^{lpha_{\lambda}-1} \exp(-eta_{\lambda}\lambda) \ p(\delta) \propto \delta^{lpha_{\delta}-1} \exp(-eta_{\delta}\delta),$$

where  $\alpha_{\lambda} = \alpha_{\delta} = 1$  and  $\beta_{\lambda} = \beta_{\delta} = 10^{-4}$ , and hence mean  $= \alpha/\beta = 10^4$ , var  $= \alpha/\beta^2 = 10^8$ .  $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{b}) \propto \text{the posterior}$  $\lambda^{n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} - 1} \delta^{n/2 + \alpha_{\delta} - 1} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2} ||\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}||^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x} - \beta_{\lambda} \lambda - \beta_{\delta} \delta\right).$ 

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{b}) \propto \text{the posterior}$$
  
 $\lambda^{n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} - 1} \delta^{n/2 + \alpha_{\delta} - 1} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x} - \beta_{\lambda} \lambda - \beta_{\delta} \delta\right)$ 

By conjugacy, each conditional distribution lives in the same family as the prior/hyper-prior distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}|\lambda,\delta,\mathbf{b} \ \sim \ N\left((\lambda\mathbf{A}^{T}\mathbf{A}+\delta\mathbf{L})^{-1}\lambda\mathbf{A}^{T}\mathbf{b},(\lambda\mathbf{A}^{T}\mathbf{A}+\delta\mathbf{L})^{-1}\right),\\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} \lambda\\ \delta \end{array} \right] \middle| \ \mathbf{x},\mathbf{b} \ \sim \ \Gamma\left( \left[ \begin{array}{c} n/2+\alpha_{\lambda}\\ n/2+\alpha_{\delta} \end{array} \right], \left[ \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k}-\mathbf{b}\|^{2}+\beta_{\lambda}\\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}\mathbf{x}^{k}\|^{2}+\beta_{\delta} \end{array} \right] \right); \end{aligned}$$

An MCMC Method for sampling from  $p(\mathbf{x}, \lambda, \delta | \mathbf{b})$ 

### A Two-Component Gibbs sampler for $p(\mathbf{x}, \delta, \lambda | \mathbf{b})$ .

- 0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0;
- 1. Compute a sample

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} \sim N\left( (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} \lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}, (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} 
ight);$$

2. Compute a sample

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k+1} \\ \delta_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \sim \Gamma \left( \begin{bmatrix} n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} \\ n/2 + \alpha_{\delta} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \beta_{\lambda} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}\mathbf{x}^{k}\|^{2} + \beta_{\delta} \end{bmatrix} \right);$$

3. Set k = k + 1 and return to Step 1.

# Sampling vs. Computing the MAP



The image sample, Step 1

$$\mathbf{x}^k \sim N\left( (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} \lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}, (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} \right),$$

can be computed via

$$(\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L}) \mathbf{x}^k = \lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{w},$$
  
 $\mathbf{w} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L}),$ 

Notice that w can be computed cheaply:

$$\mathbf{w} = \sqrt{\lambda_k} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{v} + \sqrt{\delta_k} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n).$$

## Direct Two-Component Gibbs Sampler

0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0;

1. First generate

$$\mathbf{w} = \sqrt{\lambda_k} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{v} + \sqrt{\delta_k} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n),$$

then compute a sample

$$\mathbf{x}^{k+1} = (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{w}).$$

2. Compute a sample

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k+1} \\ \delta_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \sim \Gamma \left( \begin{bmatrix} n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} \\ n/2 + \alpha_{\delta} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \beta_{\lambda} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}\mathbf{x}^{k}\|^{2} + \beta_{\delta} \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

3. Set k = k + 1 and return to Step 1.

# Assessing MCMC chain convergence

 $n_r$  chains, each of length  $n_s$ , with  $\{\psi_{ij}\}$  the computed samples. Define

$$B = \frac{n_s}{n_r - 1} \sum_{j=1}^{n_r} (\overline{\psi}_{.j} - \overline{\psi}_{..})^2, \quad \overline{\psi}_{.j} = \frac{1}{n_s} \sum_{i=1}^{n_s} \psi_{ij}, \quad \overline{\psi}_{..} = \frac{1}{n_r} \sum_{j=1}^{n_r} \overline{\psi}_{.j};$$

and

$$W = rac{1}{n_r} \sum_{j=1}^{n_r} s_j^2$$
, where  $s_j^2 = rac{1}{n_s - 1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_s} (\psi_{ij} - \overline{\psi}_{\cdot j})^2$ .

Then marginal posterior variance  $var(\psi|\mathbf{b})$  can then be estimated by

$$\widehat{\operatorname{var}}^+(\psi|\mathbf{b}) = \frac{n_s - 1}{n_s}W + \frac{1}{n_s}B,$$

We monitor

$$\widehat{R} = \sqrt{\frac{\widehat{\text{var}}^+(\psi|\mathbf{b})}{W}},\tag{1}$$

which declines to 1 as  $n_s \rightarrow \infty$ .



## Image Deblurring: Boundary Conditions in 2D

correspond to assumptions about the values of the unknown outside of the computational domain. We consider three:

Periodic :	$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X} \end{array},$
Neumann :	$egin{array}{cccc} \mathbf{X}_{vh} & \mathbf{X}_{h} & \mathbf{X}_{vh} \ \mathbf{X}_{v} & \mathbf{X}_{v} & \mathbf{X}_{v} \ \mathbf{X}_{vh} & \mathbf{X}_{h} & \mathbf{X}_{vh} \end{array},$
Dirichlet :	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

## Periodic boundary conditions

In this case you can efficiently compute

$$\mathbf{x}^k = (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{w}).$$

Here  ${\bf A}$  and  ${\bf L}$  are diagonalizable by the 2d-DFT.

Sample mean



Pixel-wise Variance Image.



## Precision & Reg. Parameter Histograms


#### Neumann boundary conditions (w/ M. Howard & J. Nagy)

In this case you can directly solve

$$\mathbf{x}^k = (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L})^{-1} (\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{w}).$$

Here  ${\bf A}$  and  ${\bf L}$  are diagonalizable by the 2d-DCT.





### Precision & Reg. Parameter Histograms



In cases where the linear system

$$(\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L}) \mathbf{x}^k = \lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{w}.$$

can't be directly solved, we restate it as an optimization problem. In cases where the linear system

$$(\lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} + \delta_k \mathbf{L}) \mathbf{x}^k = \lambda_k \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{w}.$$

can't be directly solved, we restate it as an optimization problem.

1. Randomize: generate new 'data'

 $\mathbf{\hat{b}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, \lambda_k^{-1} \mathbf{I}_n)$  and  $\mathbf{\hat{c}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{\dagger}).$ 

where '†' denotes pseudo-inverse.

2. Optimize: solve

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_{k}^{1/2} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

Two Component Gibbs sampler using RTO

0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0;

1. First generate

 $\hat{\mathbf{b}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, \lambda_k^{-1} \mathbf{I}_n)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{c}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{\dagger}).$ 

then compute

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_{k}^{1/2} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

2. Compute a sample

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k+1} \\ \delta_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \sim \Gamma \left( \begin{bmatrix} n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} \\ n/2 + \alpha_{\delta} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \beta_{\lambda} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}\mathbf{x}^{k}\|^{2} + \beta_{\delta} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

3. Set k = k + 1 and return to Step 1.

## Deblurring with Dirichlet boundary conditions

In this case you must solve

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}\|_{2}^{2} + \frac{\delta_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}(\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}})\|_{2}^{2} \right\}.$$

We use a circulant preconditioned CG algorithm.

Sample median Pixel-wise standard deviation.





### Precision & Reg. Parameter Histograms



# Computed Tomography

In this case you must solve

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}\|_{2}^{2} + \frac{\delta_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}(\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}})\|_{2}^{2} \right\}.$$

Sample median Pixel-wise Variance Image.

Pretending we have accurate solutions yields:





### Precision & Reg. Parameter Histograms



## Nonnegativity Constrained MCMC Method

with Colin Fox

- 0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0;
- 1. First generate

 $\hat{\mathbf{b}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, \lambda_k^{-1} \mathbf{I}_n)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{c}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{\dagger}).$ 

then compute

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{0}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_{k}^{1/2} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

2. Compute a sample

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k+1} \\ \delta_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \sim \Gamma \left( \begin{bmatrix} n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} \\ n_p/2 + \alpha_{\delta} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{b}\|^2 + \beta_{\lambda} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}\mathbf{x}^k\|^2 + \beta_{\delta} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

3. Set k = k + 1 and return to Step 1.

Generate

$$\mathbf{\hat{b}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, \lambda_k^{-1} \mathbf{I}_n)$$
 and  $\mathbf{\hat{c}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{\dagger}).$ 

then compute

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{0}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_{k}^{1/2} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

Question: What is  $p(\mathbf{x}^k)$ ?

#### Nonnegativity Constraints: Deblur (w/ C. Fox)



In this case the data model has the form

 $\mathbf{b} = \mathsf{Poisson}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{g}),$ 

- $\bullet \ {\bf b}$  is the  $m \times {\bf 1}$  data vector,
- $\bullet$  A is an  $m \times n$  ill-condition matrix,
- $\bullet \ {\bf x}$  is the  $n \times {\bf 1}$  unknown,
- $\bullet~{\bf g}$  is the  $m\times {\bf 1}$  known background.

Then

$$p(\mathbf{b}|\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^{n} ([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + \beta_{i}) - b_{i} \ln([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + \beta_{i})\right).$$

If we assume, as above, Gaussian prior and Gamma hyperprior, we obtain

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \delta | \mathbf{b}) \propto \text{the posterior}$$
  
 $\delta^{n/2+\alpha-1} \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^{n} ([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + \beta_{i}) - b_{i} \ln([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + \beta_{i}) - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^{T}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{x} - \beta\delta\right).$ 

### A Two-Component Gibbs Sampler for Poisson Data

Sample cyclically from  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b},\delta)$  and  $p(\delta|\mathbf{b},\mathbf{x})$ 

- 0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0.
- 1. Compute a sample  $\mathbf{x}_{k+1}$  from

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\delta_k, \mathbf{b}) \propto \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^n ([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_i + \beta_i) - b_i \ln([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_i + \beta_i) - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}\right)$$

2. Compute a sample  $\delta_{k+1}$  from

$$p(\delta|\mathbf{x}_{k+1},\mathbf{b}) \sim \Gamma\left(n/2 + \alpha, \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}^k + \beta\right)$$

3. Set k = k + 1 and return to Step 1.

1. first randomize the 'data',

$$\hat{\mathbf{b}} \sim \mathsf{Poiss}(\mathbf{b})$$
 and  $\hat{\mathbf{c}} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1}\mathbf{I})$ ,

2. then optimize to obtain a sample,

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}\geq \mathbf{0}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\{ [\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + g_{i} - \widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{i} \ln([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + g_{i}) \right\} + \frac{\delta_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}(\mathbf{x} - \widehat{\mathbf{c}})\|^{2} \right\}.$$

Question: Is the density  $p(\mathbf{x}^k)$  defined by RTO close to

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\delta_k, \mathbf{b}) \propto \exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^n ([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_i + \beta_i) - b_i \ln([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_i + \beta_i) - \frac{\delta}{2}\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}\mathbf{x}\right)?$$

## A Two-Component Gibbs Sampler for Poisson Data

with Haario and Solonen

- 0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0;
- 1. First generate

$$\hat{\mathbf{b}} \sim \text{Poiss}(\mathbf{b}) \text{ and } \hat{\mathbf{c}} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1}\mathbf{I}),$$

then compute

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}\geq 0} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\{ [\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + g_{i} - \hat{b}_{i} \ln([\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}]_{i} + g_{i}) \right\} + \frac{\delta_{k}}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}(\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}})\|^{2} \right\}.$$

2. 
$$\delta_{k+1} \sim \Gamma\left(\frac{n_p}{2} + \alpha, \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^k)^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}^k + \beta\right);$$
  
3. Set  $k = k + 1$  and return to Step 1.

# Sampling vs. Computing the MAP



## Positron Emission Tomography



We begin by considering linear models of the form:

 $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon},$ 

- $\bullet \ {\bf b}$  is the  $m \times {\bf 1}$  data vector,
- $\mathbf{A}: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$  is the *nonlinear* forward map,
- $\bullet \, {\bf x}$  is the  $n \times {\bf 1}$  unknown,
- $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$  is the  $n \times 1$  iid Gaussian noise vector.

### EIT Model

Let u be voltage,  $\sigma$  electrical conductivity:

$$abla \cdot (\sigma \nabla u) = 0, \quad \Omega$$
  
BCs,  $\partial \Omega$ 

Inverse Problem: given inputs and measurements of u at the boundary, determine the conductivity  $\sigma$  in the interior.







## RTO in the nonlinear case

w/ Haario, Kaipio, Seppanen, Solonen

1. Randomize: generate new 'data'

 $\hat{\mathbf{b}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, \lambda_k^{-1} \mathbf{I}_n)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{c}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{\dagger}).$ 

2. Optimize: solve

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_{k}^{1/2} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

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Question: Is the density  $p(\mathbf{x}^k)$  defined by RTO close to

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b},\lambda_k,\delta_k) \propto \exp\left(-rac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_k^{1/2}(\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_k^{1/2}\mathbf{L}^{1/2}(\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2 
ight)$$

as in the linear case?

### Numerical Comparison of AM and RTO

by Antti Solonen

Test 1: Let 
$$f^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) = [x_1/a, ax_2 + ab(x_1^2 + a^2)]$$
 and define  
 $\pi(\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp\left((f^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{v})^T \Sigma^{-1}(f^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{v})\right),$ 



### Numerical Comparison of AM and RTO

by Antti Solonen

Test 2: use RTO to sample  $(x_1, x_2) = \arg \min_{(x_1, x_2)} \sum_{i=1}^T (b_i - x_1(1 - \exp(-x_2 t_i)))^2,$ where  $(b_1, \dots, b_n)$  and  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  are measured data and  $b_i = x_1(1 - \exp(-x_2 t_i)) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, T.$ 



# Two-Component Gibbs Sampler, Nonlinear Case

with Seppänen, Solonen, Haario, and Kaipio

- 0.  $\delta_0$ , and  $\lambda_0$ , and set k = 0;
- 1. First generate

$$\widehat{\mathbf{b}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{b}, \lambda_k^{-1} \mathbf{I}_n) \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{\mathbf{c}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \delta_k^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{\dagger}).$$

then compute

$$\mathbf{x}^{k} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}) - \hat{\mathbf{b}}) \\ \delta_{k}^{1/2} \mathbf{L}^{1/2} (\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}) \end{bmatrix} \right\|_{2}^{2}$$

2. Compute a sample

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k+1} \\ \delta_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \sim \Gamma \left( \begin{bmatrix} n/2 + \alpha_{\lambda} \\ n/2 + \alpha_{\delta} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^{k} - \mathbf{b}\|^{2} + \beta_{\lambda} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{L}^{1/2}\mathbf{x}^{k}\|^{2} + \beta_{\delta} \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

3. Set k = k + 1 and return to Step 1.

#### Sample mean and standard deviation images



Let b be fixed 'data' from the model

$$b = a(x) + v, \quad v \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2).$$

Let  $\hat{v}$  be a fixed realization from v and define

$$x_{\hat{v}} = \arg\min_{x} \left\{ f(x) = (a(x) - (b + \hat{v}))^2 \right\}.$$

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Note/Question: We want to sample from

$$p(x|b) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{(a(x) - (b + \hat{v}))^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Are we doing this in RTO?

First order optimality: We know  $f'(x_{\hat{v}}) = 0$ , and hence  $a'(x_{\hat{v}})(a(x_{\hat{v}}) - (b + \hat{v})) = 0.$ 

Assuming  $a'(x_{\hat{v}}) \neq 0$ , then

$$\hat{v} = a(x_{\hat{v}}) - b.$$

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Assuming  $a'(x_{\hat{v}}) \neq 0$ , then

$$\hat{v} = a(x_{\hat{v}}) - b.$$

Change of variables: we expand a about  $x_{\hat{v}}$  to obtain

$$a(x) - b = \underbrace{a(x_{\widehat{v}}) - b}_{=\widehat{v}} + a'(x_{\widehat{v}})(x - x_{\widehat{v}}) + \mathcal{O}((x - x_{\widehat{v}})^2),$$

which motivates the change of variables

$$v = \underbrace{a(x_{\widehat{v}}) - b}_{=\widehat{v}} + a'(x_{\widehat{v}})(x - x_{\widehat{v}}).$$

### Nonlinear RTO Proof, Scalar Case

Then, if

$$p(v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{v^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$

the change of variables

$$v = \underbrace{a(x_{\hat{v}}) - b}_{=\hat{v}} + a'(x_{\hat{v}})(x - x_{\hat{v}}).$$

yields

$$p(x) = \frac{|a'(x_{\hat{v}})|}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(a(x_{\hat{v}}) - b + a'(x_{\hat{v}})(x - x_{\hat{v}}))^2}{2\sigma^2}\right).$$

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Finally, the fact that  $v = \hat{v} \iff x = x_{\hat{v}}$  yields

$$p(x_{\hat{v}}) = \frac{|a'(x_{\hat{v}})|}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(a(x_{\hat{v}})-b)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

The implication of this result is that RTO samples satisfy

 $p(x) \propto |a'(x)| p(x|b).$ 

To obtain samples from p(x|b), use importance sampling.
The implication of this result is that RTO samples satisfy  $p(x) \propto |a'(x)|p(x|b).$ 

To obtain samples from p(x|b), use importance sampling.

Example, computing E(x|b): suppose  $x^i \sim p(x)$ , i = 1, ..., k.

$$E(x|b) = \int x p(x|b) dx$$
  
=  $\int x (p(x|b)/p(x))p(x) dx$   
 $\approx \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} w^{i}\right)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{k} x^{i}w^{i}, \quad w^{i} = |a'(x^{i})|^{-1}.$ 

## 1D Demo by Antti Solonen



Provided the above approach is valid, it can be extended to the vector case to obtain

$$p(\mathbf{x}) \propto \sqrt{|J(\mathbf{x})^T J(\mathbf{x})|} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b}).$$

where  $J(\mathbf{x})$  is the Jacobian of  $A(\cdot)$  at  $\mathbf{x}$ .

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Example, computing  $E(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b})$ : suppose  $\mathbf{x}^i \sim p(\mathbf{x})$ , i = 1, ..., k.  $E(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b}) = \int \mathbf{x} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b}) d\mathbf{x}$   $= \int \mathbf{x} (p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{b})/p(\mathbf{x}))p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$  $\approx \left(\sum_{i=1}^k w^i\right)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{x}^i w^i, \quad w^i = |J(\mathbf{x}^i)^T J(\mathbf{x}^i)|^{-1/2}.$ 

- 1. Randomize-then-Optimize yields high quality samples for large-scale inverse problems.
- 2. In nonlinear cases (nonnegativity constraints, Poisson noise, nonlinear models) the theory for RTO has not been developed.
- 3. Preliminary results indicate that RTO can be used within an importance sampling framework.