InFoMM
Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling

Efficient white noise sampling and coupling for multilevel Monte Carlo

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EPSRC
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Overview

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Motivation

The motivation of our research is the sampling of lognormal Gaussian fields. A Matérn Gaussian field (approximately) satisfies a linear elliptic SPDE of the form

$$Lu = \dot{W}, \quad x \in D, \quad \omega \in \Omega \quad + \text{ BCs},$$

where $u = u(x, \omega)$ and $\dot{W}$ is **spatial white noise**. Other approaches can be used (with pros and cons), but we will not discuss them here.

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The same techniques can be used to solve a more general class of SPDEs, e.g.

$$N(u) + Lu = \dot{W}, \quad x \in D, \quad \omega \in \Omega \quad + \text{ BCs}.$$

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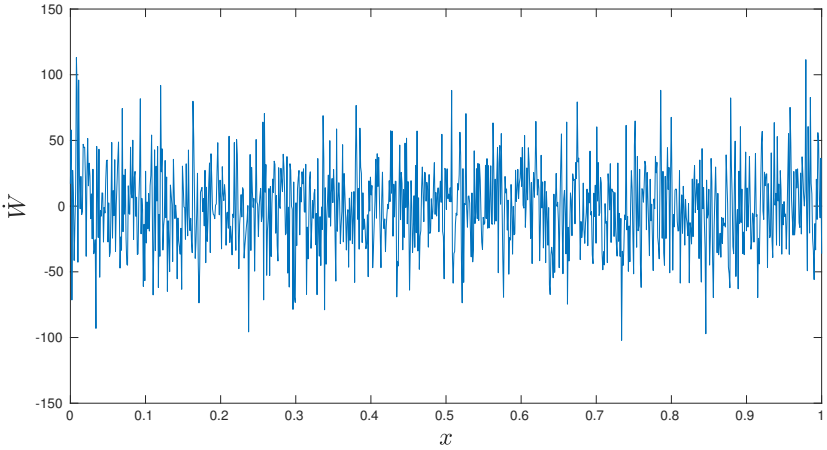
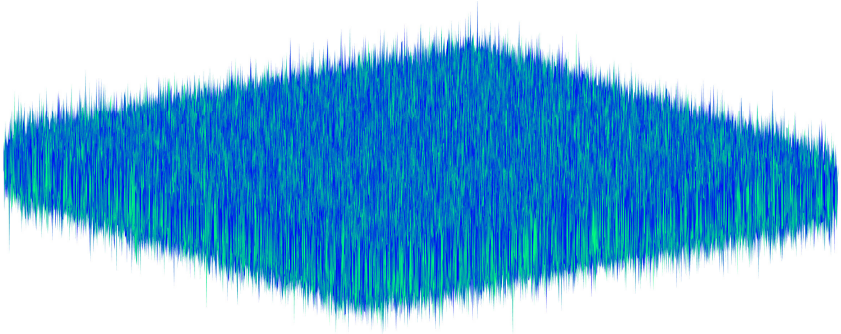
The efficient sampling of $\dot{W}$ is the focus of this talk.

White noise (1D)



WARNING! Point evaluation not defined!

White noise (2D)



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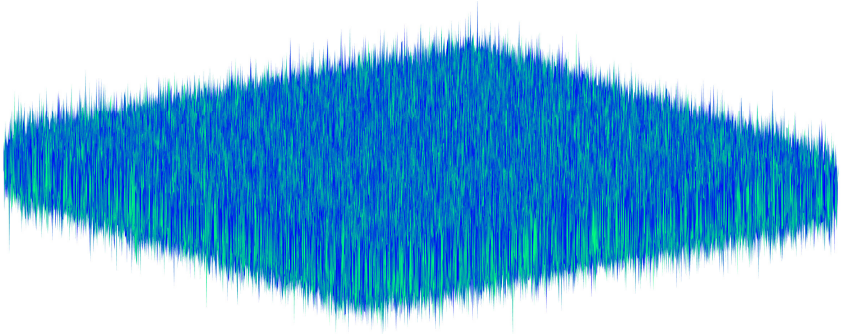
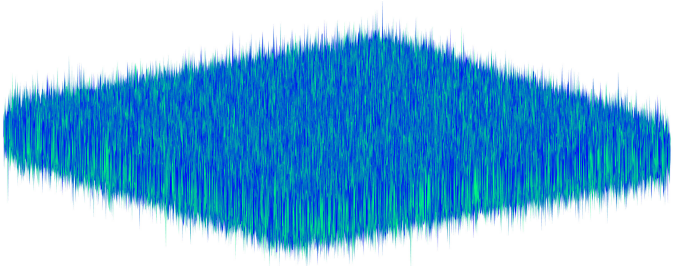


WARNING! Point evaluation not defined!

IDEA! Avoid point evaluation by integrating $\dot{W}$.

White Noise (practical definition)



Definition (Spatial White Noise $\dot{W}$)

For any $\phi \in L^2(D)$, define $\langle \dot{W}, \phi \rangle := \int_D \dot{W}\phi \, \mathrm{d}x$. For any $\phi_i,\ \phi_j \in L^2(D)$, $b_i = \langle \dot{W}, \phi_i \rangle$, $b_j = \langle \dot{W}, \phi_j \rangle$ are zero-mean Gaussian random variables, with,

$$\mathbb{E}[b_i b_j] = \int_D \phi_i \phi_j \, \mathrm{dx} =: M_{ij}, \quad \mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M). \tag{1}$$

Finite element (FEM) framework

When solving SPDEs (see 1st slide) with FEM, we get (for **linear problems**)

Discrete weak form: find $u_h \in V_h$ s.t. for all $v_h \in V_h$,

$$a(u_h, v_h) = \langle \dot{W}, v_h \rangle, \tag{2}$$

Where $V_h = \text{span}(\{\phi_i\}_{i=0}^n)$, (e.g. with Lagrange elements).

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FEM linear system: $u_h = \sum_i u_i \phi_i$, $\mathbf{u} = [u_0, \ldots, u_n]^T$,

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}(\omega), \tag{3}$$

where the entries of $\mathbf{b}$ are given by,

$$\langle \dot{W}, \phi_i \rangle(\omega) = b_i(\omega), \tag{4}$$

with $\mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$ as before. M is the **mass matrix** of V_h.

Multilevel Monte Carlo [Giles 2008] + FEM framework

For MLMC, we have two approximation levels ℓ and $\ell - 1$. For any particular $\omega \in \Omega$, we need to solve: find $u_h^\ell \in V_h^\ell$, $u_h^{\ell-1} \in V_h^{\ell-1}$ s.t. for all $v_h^\ell \in V_h^\ell$, $v_h^{\ell-1} \in V_h^{\ell-1}$,

$$a(u_h^\ell, v_h^\ell) = \langle \dot{W}, v_h^\ell \rangle(\omega), \tag{5}$$

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This yields the linear system

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where $\mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$. Let $V_h^\ell = \text{span}(\{\phi_i^\ell\}_{i=0}^{n_\ell})$ and $V_h^{\ell-1} = \text{span}(\{\phi_i^{\ell-1}\}_{i=0}^{n_{\ell-1}})$, then

$$M = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} M^\ell & M^{\ell,\ell-1} \\ \hline (M^{\ell,\ell-1})^T & M^{\ell-1} \end{array}\right], \quad M_{ij}^{\ell,\ell-1} = \int \phi_i^\ell \phi_j^{\ell-1} \, \text{dx}.$$

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NOTE: we do not require the FEM approximation subspaces to be nested!

Overview

The challenge

SAMPLING PROBLEM 1: single level realisations:
sample $b \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$, where M is the mass matrix of V_h.

SAMPLING PROBLEM 2: coupled realisations:
sample $b \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$, where M is the block mass matrix given by V_h^ℓ and $V_h^{\ell-1}$.

How to sample b?

Sampling b is hard!

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Naïve approach

- Factorise $M = HH^T$ (**cubic complexity!**) and set $\mathbf{b} = H\mathbf{z}$, with $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$.

$$\Rightarrow \quad \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{b}\mathbf{b}^T] = \mathbb{E}[H\mathbf{z}(H\mathbf{z})^T] = H\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}^T]H^T = HIH^T = M.$$

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- Works well if M **diagonal**: previous work used either mass-lumping [Lindgren, Rue and Lindström 2009], piecewise constant elements [Osborn, Vassilevski and Villa 2017] or a piecewise constant approximation of white noise [Drzisga, et al. 2017, Du and Zhang 2002].
- We do not require M to be diagonal (and we do not approximate white noise).
- We can sample $\mathbf{b}$ with **linear complexity**.

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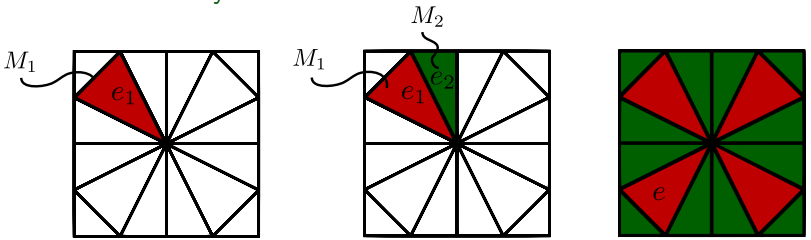
IDEA! H does not need to be square, maybe we can find a more efficient factorisation!

White noise sampling: single level realisations

SAMPLING PROBLEM 1: need to sample $\mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$.

Exploit the FEM assembly



$(M_1)_{ij} = \int_{e_1} \phi_i^1 \phi_j^1$ $\quad$ $(M_2)_{ij} = \int_{e_2} \phi_i^2 \phi_j^2$ $\quad$ $(M_e)_{ij} = \int_{e} \phi_i^e \phi_j^e$

$$M = L^T \begin{bmatrix} M_1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & M_2 & \ddots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} L = L^T \mathrm{diag}_e(M_e) L. \tag{7}$$

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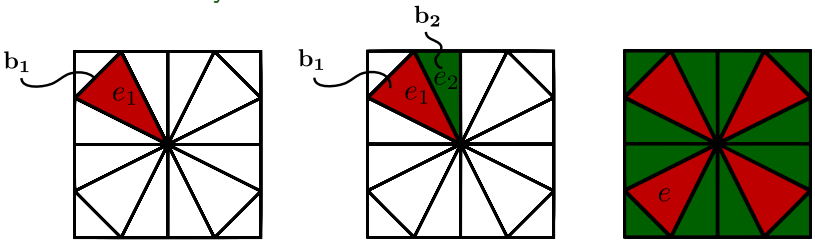


$\mathbf{b_1} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M_1)$ $\quad$ $\mathbf{b_2} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M_2)$ $\quad$ $\mathbf{b_e} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M_e)$

$$\mathcal{N}(0, M) \sim \mathbf{b} = L^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b_1} \\ \mathbf{b_2} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = L^T \mathrm{vstack}_e(\mathbf{b}_e) \tag{8}$$

White noise sampling: single level realisations

SAMPLING PROBLEM 1: need to sample $\mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$.

Exploit the FEM assembly

- Each $\mathbf{b}_e$ can be sampled as $\mathbf{b}_e = H_e \mathbf{z}_e$ with $\mathbf{z}_e \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ and $H_e H_e^T = M_e$.
- $\mathbf{b} = L^T \mathrm{vstack}_e(\mathbf{b}_e)$ is $\mathcal{N}(0, M)$ since

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{b}\mathbf{b}^T] &= L^T \mathbb{E}[\mathrm{vstack}_e(\mathbf{b}_e)\mathrm{vstack}_e(\mathbf{b}_e)^T] L \\ &= L^T \mathrm{diag}_e(H_e)\mathrm{diag}_e(H_e^T) L = L^T \mathrm{diag}_e(M_e) L = M.\end{aligned}$$

- If the mapping to the FEM reference element is **affine** (e.g. Lagrange elements on simplices) we have that $M_e/|e| = \text{const}$ on each element and **only one local factorisation is needed**.

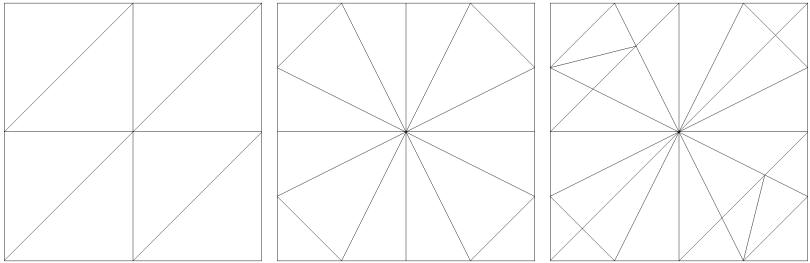
This approach is trivially parallelisable!

White noise sampling: coupled realisations

SAMPLING PROBLEM 2: need to sample $\mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$, where M is now the block mixed mass matrix.

Definition (Supermesh, [Farrell 2009])

Let A and B be two (possibly non-nested) meshes. Their supermesh S is one of their common refinements. A and B are both nested within S.



A B S

White noise sampling: coupled realisations

SAMPLING PROBLEM 2: need to sample $\mathbf{b} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, M)$, where M is now the block mixed mass matrix.

- Factorise locally, this time on each **supermesh element**.
- Sample $\mathbf{b}$ on S, then interpolate/project the result onto A and B (this step can be performed locally).
- Since A and B are nested within S, this operation is exact. Note that A and B **need not** be nested.

Previous work on white noise coupling for MLMC used either a nested hierarchy [Drzisga et al. 2017, Osborn et al. 2017] or an algebraically constructed hierarchy of agglomerated meshes [Osborn, Vassilevski and Villa 2017].

Complexity overview

	offline cost	online cost (per sample)	memory storage
single level	0 (or $O(m^3 N)$)	$O(m^3 N)$ (or $O(m^2 N)$)	$O(m^2)$ (or $O(m^2 N)$)
single l. (affine)	$O(m^3)$	$O(m^2 N)$	$O(m^2)$
coupled	0 (or $O(m^3 N_S)$)	$O(m^3 N_S)$ (or $O(m^2 N_S)$)	$O(m^2)$ (or $O(m^2 N_S)$)
coupled (affine)	$O(m^3)$	$O(m^2 N_S)$	$O(m^2)$

Table: *Memory and cost complexity of our white noise sampling strategy. In the non-affine case the cost per sample can be lowered by precomputing and storing the local factorisations (see entries in blue). N_S is the number of supermesh elements. In our experience with MLMC, $N_S \leq c_d N_\ell$ and $c_d = 2$ (1D), $c_d = 2.5$ (2D), $c_d = 45$ (3D).*

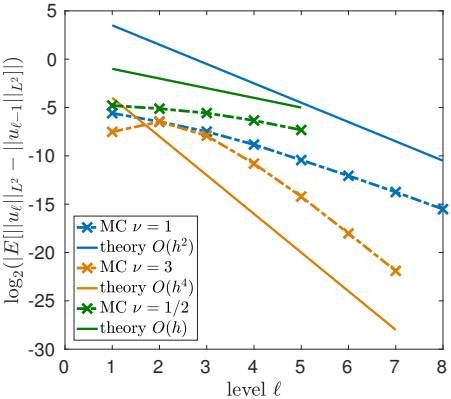
Overview

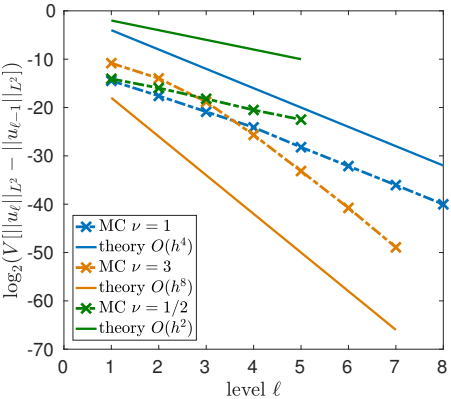
Numerical results: convergence of $P(u) = \|u\|^2_{L^2(D)}$

Consider the linear elliptic SPDE [Lindgren, Rue and Lindström 2009], [Bolin, Kirchner and Kovács 2017],

$$\left(\mathcal{I} - \kappa^{-2}\Delta\right)^k u(x,\omega) = \eta \dot{W}, \quad x \in D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d, \quad \omega \in \Omega, \quad \nu = 2k - d/2 > 0.$$

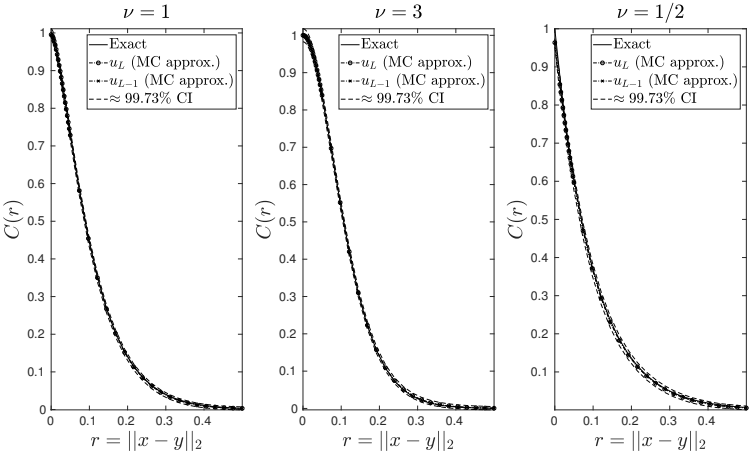
We compute FEM solutions $\{u_h^\ell\}_{\ell=1}^{\ell=8}$ with a non-nested hierarchy of subspaces $\{V_h^\ell\}_{\ell=1}^{\ell=8}$.





Numerical results: covariance convergence

$$\mathcal{C}(r) = \mathbb{E}[u(x)u(y)] = \frac{1}{2^{\nu-1}\Gamma(\nu)}(\kappa r)^{\nu}\mathcal{K}_{\nu}(\kappa r), \quad r = \|x-y\|_2, \quad \kappa = \frac{\sqrt{8\nu}}{\lambda}, \quad x, y \in D,$$



Overview

Conclusions and further work

Outlook

- White noise is an extremely non-smooth object and is defined through its integral.
- We can sample single level white noise realisations efficiently.
- We can couple white noise between different FEM approximation subspaces. A supermesh construction is not needed in the nested case.
- The overall order of **complexity is linear** in the number of elements of the supermesh and it can be **trivially parallelised**. Standard techniques usually have cubic complexity.

Further work: extensions to QMC and MLQMC.

Paper: `https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.04857`

References - Thank you for listening!

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