

# MULTILEVEL POLYNOMIAL LEAST SQUARES APPROXIMATION

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MCQMC  
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## MOTIATION: RANDOM PDE / UQ

- Consider PDE with uncertain parameter, e.g.:

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(a_{\mathbf{y}} \nabla u_{\mathbf{y}}) = g & \text{in } U \\ u_{\mathbf{y}} = 0 & \text{on } \partial U \end{cases} \quad \forall \mathbf{y} \in \Gamma \subset \mathbb{R}^d$$

- Approximate dependence of scalar quantity of interest on  $\mathbf{y}$

$$f: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathbf{y} \mapsto F(u_{\mathbf{y}})$$

- Use approximation for:
  - Statistics (compute  $\mathbb{E}f, \mathbb{V}f, \dots$ , prob.density  $p_F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ )
  - Performance guarantees (find  $\max f, \min f$ )
  - Inverse problems (with  $f$  being the likelihood or posteriori density)

## OUTLINE

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  - Could use Monte Carlo approximation of coefficients:

$$c_m \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N f(y_n) \phi_m(y_i)$$

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- Hierarchical session  $\Rightarrow$  evaluate  $f$  at different accuracies
  - Will use “Multilevel” as in Multilevel Monte Carlo
- **Note:**  $y$  is random, but  $f(y)$  for fixed  $y$  is not
  - ▶ Monte Carlo rates can be beaten if  $f$  is smooth enough

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## DEFINITION

- If  $(\phi_m)_{m=1}^{\infty}$  is orthonormal basis of  $L^2_{\mu}(\Gamma)$  and

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then

$$c_m = \int_{\Gamma} \phi_m(\mathbf{y}) f(\mathbf{y}) \mu(d\mathbf{y}).$$

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then

$$c_m = \int_{\Gamma} \phi_m(y) f(y) \mu(dy).$$

- For any  $M < \infty$ , let

$$\Pi^{\text{MC}} f := \Pi_{M, (y_n)_{n=1}^N}^{\text{MC}} f := \sum_{m=1}^M c_m^{\text{MC}} \phi_m,$$

with

$$c_m^{\text{MC}} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \phi_m(y_n) f(y_n)$$

where  $(y_n)_{n=1}^N$  are sampled i.i.d. from  $\mu$

## ACCURACY

- By orthonormality:

$$\|f - \Pi^{\text{MC}} f\|_{L^2_\mu}^2 = \sum_{m=1}^M (c_m - c_m^{\text{MC}})^2 + \sum_{m=M+1}^{\infty} c_m^2$$

- MC estimates converge at rate  $N^{-1/2}$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$
- Joint convergence deteriorates as  $M \rightarrow \infty$
- ▶ Need  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{-2-\alpha})$  evaluations for accuracy  $\varepsilon > 0$   
(with  $\alpha > 0$  depending on smoothness of  $f$ )

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## MOTIVATION

- The empirical average

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N f(y_n)$$

solves discrete least squares minimization problem:

$$\arg \min_{c \in \mathbb{R}} \left\{ \|f - c\|_N^2 := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N |f(y_n) - c|^2 \right\}$$

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- If  $\phi_1 \equiv 1$ , empirical average equals coefficient estimate  $c_1^{\text{MC}}$
- In general, the normalized MC coefficients

$$\frac{c_m^{\text{MC}}}{\|\phi_m\|_N} = \frac{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N f(y_n) \phi_m(y_n)}{\|\phi_m\|_N}$$

solve the discrete least squares problems

$$\arg \min_{c \in \mathbb{R}} \|f - c\phi_m\|_N^2$$

## DEFINITION

**To find multiple coefficients, why not solve a single optimization problem for all?**



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- For finite-dimensional  $V \subset L^2_\mu(\Gamma)$  let

$$\Pi_V^{\text{LS}} f := \Pi_{V, (y_n)_{n=1}^N}^{\text{LS}} f := \arg \min_{v \in V} \|f - v\|_N^2$$

- Coefficients of  $\Pi_V^{\text{LS}} f$  w.r.t. ONB  $(\phi_m)_{m=1}^M$  of  $V$ :

$$\mathbf{c}^{\text{LS}} = \mathbf{G}^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{\text{MC}}$$

with the **random Gramian matrix**

$$\mathbf{G} := (\langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle_N)_{i,j=1}^M$$

## ACCURACY

Let  $\Pi_V^{\text{best}}$  be the  $L^2_\mu(\Gamma)$ -orthogonal projection onto  $V \subset L^2_\mu$

- For  $\Pi \in \{\Pi_V^{\text{LS}}, \Pi_V^{\text{MC}}\}$ :

$$\underbrace{\|f - \Pi f\|_{L^2_\mu(\Gamma)}^2}_{\text{Total error}} = \underbrace{\|\Pi f - \Pi_V^{\text{best}} f\|_{L^2_\mu}^2}_{\text{Projection error}} + \underbrace{\|f - \Pi_V^{\text{best}} f\|_{L^2_\mu}^2}_{\text{Subspace error}}$$

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- ▶ No point in higher accuracy of projection than accuracy of best-approximation in subspace  $V$
- For fixed  $V$ , normalization factor  $\mathbf{G}^{-1}$  converges to identity at MC rate as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ 
  - ▶ Projection error of  $\Pi_V^{\text{LS}}$  decays asymptotically at Monte Carlo rate, just as  $\Pi_V^{\text{MC}}$

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- For fixed  $V$ , normalization factor  $\mathbf{G}^{-1}$  converges to identity at MC rate as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ 
  - ▶ Projection error of  $\Pi_V^{\text{LS}}$  decays asymptotically at Monte Carlo rate, just as  $\Pi_V^{\text{MC}}$
- However: Proj. error of  $\Pi_V^{\text{LS}}$  “almost immediately” becomes as small as subsp. error; i.e. subsp. error acts as constant in front of MC rate**
  - Remember that for constant functions MC=LS, and indeed:

$$\text{Var}[f]^{1/2} N^{-1/2} = \|f - \mathbb{E}[f]\|_{L_\mu^2} N^{-1/2}$$

## ACCURACY

(Remember:  $M = \dim V$ )

**THEOREM (COHEN ET AL. '13, CHKIFA ET AL. '15)**

For many  $\mu$  there exist  $\theta$  and  $C$  **independent of dimension of  $\Gamma$**  such that  $N \geq CM^\theta \log M$  suffices to achieve

Projection error  $\leq 2 \times$  Subspace error

(Check references for precise statement)

- Uniqueness of least squares approximation requires  $N \geq M$ , i.e.  $\theta \geq 1$
- For example,  $\theta = 2$  for  $\mu = \text{Unif}(\Gamma = [-1, 1]^d)$ , but  $\theta = \infty$  for normal distributions

## PROOF SKETCH

Since  $\Pi^{\text{LS}}$  leaves  $V$  invariant, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{\|\Pi^{\text{LS}} f - \Pi^{\text{best}} f\|_{L^2_\mu}}_{\text{Projection error}} &= \|\Pi^{\text{LS}} f - \Pi^{\text{LS}} \Pi^{\text{best}} f\|_{L^2_\mu} \\ &\leq \|\Pi^{\text{LS}}\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \|f - \Pi^{\text{best}} f\|_{L^2_\mu} \\ &\approx \|\mathbf{G}^{-1}\|_{\text{op.}} \underbrace{\|f - \Pi^{\text{best}} f\|_{L^2_\mu}}_{\text{Subspace error}}. \end{aligned}$$

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By **large deviation theory** for matrices, very quickly very likely

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Precise statement involves supremum bounds of entries of  $\mathbf{G}^{-1}$  and leads to the condition:

$$N / \log N \geq \sup_{y \in \Gamma} \sum_{m=1}^M \phi_m^2(y)$$

R.h.s. can be bounded on case-by-case basis by  $M^\theta$

□



## IMPORTANCE SAMPLING

Draw samples from  $\nu := \nu(V, \mu)$  with

$$\frac{d\nu}{d\mu}(y) := \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \phi_m^2(y)$$

and minimize **weighted** discrete  $\ell^2$ -norm

$$\|f - v\|_N^2 := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{d\mu}{d\nu} |f(y_n) - v(y_n)|^2$$

(Weighting ensures  $\|\cdot\|_N \approx \|\cdot\|_{L_\mu^2}$ )

**THEOREM (HAMPTON & DOOSTAN '15, COHEN & MIGLIORATI '16)**

With importance sampling,  $N \geq CM \log M$  suffices for same accuracy as before

(Check references for precise statement)

## IMPORTANCE SAMPLING IN PRACTICE

- To sample from importance sampling distribution  $\nu$  with

$$\frac{d\nu}{d\mu}(y) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \phi_m^2(y) :$$

- (1) Randomly pick  $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$
  - (2) Sample  $y$  from  $\phi_m^2 d\mu$
- ▶ Cost per sample independent of  $\dim V = M$

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- If  $\Gamma = \prod_{j=1}^d \Gamma_j$  and  $\mu = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mu_j$ , may use tensor basis

$$\phi_{\mathbf{m}} := \phi_{m_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \phi_{m_d}$$

and **sample components  $\phi_{m_j}^2 d\mu_j$  in Step (2)**

**independently** (using rejection sampling, exploiting bounds from theory of univariate orthogonal polynomials)

▶ Cost per sample  $\mathcal{O}(d)$

BOUNDS ON  $\nu$  FOR  $\Gamma = [-1, 1]^d$ 

For many measures on  $[-1, 1]^d$ , the optimal importance sampling distribution **dominates the uniform distribution and is dominated by the arcsine distribution**, whose Lebesgue density is

$$p_{\sin}(y) := \prod_{j=1}^d \frac{1}{\pi \sqrt{(1 + y^{(j)})(1 - y^{(j)})}},$$

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Upper bound suggests sampling from  $p_{\sin} d\lambda$  instead of  $\nu$

- $\#\{\text{Req. samples}\}$  increases by factor independent of  $V$ , but increasing exponentially w.r.t.  $d$
- Easy sampling:  $y^{(j)} := \sin(x^{(j)})$ ,  $x^{(j)} \sim \text{Unif}[-\pi, \pi]$
- Independence from  $V$  useful for adaptive algorithms

## INEXACT EVALUATIONS

**REMEMBER**

In our motivating example, evaluation of

$$f(y) = F(u_y)$$

requires solution of a PDE!

- ▶ Exact evaluations rarely possible
- ▶ Numerical solvers yield  $f_h(y)$ ,  $h > 0$  with  $f_h(y) \rightarrow f(y)$  and increasing cost as  $h \rightarrow 0$

## SINGLE LEVEL APPROACH TO INEXACT EVALUATIONS

**Idea:** Apply least squares approximation to fixed  $f_h$

**Problem:** Good approximation requires both a large subspace  $V$  ( $\Rightarrow$  **many samples**) and small  $h$  ( $\Rightarrow$  **expensive samples**)

## EXAMPLE

If

- there is  $\beta > 0$  such that  $\|f - f_h\|_{L^2_\mu(\Gamma)} \lesssim h^\beta$
- there is  $\alpha > 0$  and a sequence of subspaces  $(V_k)_{k=1}^\infty$  such that

$$\|f_h - \Pi_{V_k}^{\text{best}} f_h\|_{L^2_\mu(\Gamma)} \lesssim (\dim V_k)^{-\alpha} \quad \forall h > 0, k \in \mathbb{N}$$

then accuracy  $\varepsilon > 0$  requires  $h \approx \varepsilon^{1/\beta}$  and  $\dim V_k \approx \varepsilon^{-1/\alpha}$

► If evaluations of  $f_h$  require the work  $\mathcal{O}(h^{-\gamma})$ , the total work is

$$h^{-\gamma} \times (\dim V_k)^\theta \log \dim V_k \approx \varepsilon^{-\gamma/\beta - \theta/\alpha} |\log \varepsilon|$$

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## DEFINITION

In analogy to Multilevel Monte Carlo (Heinrich '01, Giles '08,...), let  $h_\ell \rightarrow 0$  and apply least squares approximation to each term in

$$f = f_{h_0} + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} f_{h_\ell} - f_{h_{\ell-1}}$$

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  - ▶ Computing many samples makes sense
- $f_{h_\ell} - f_{h_{\ell-1}} \rightarrow 0$ , and they are increasingly expensive
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## MULTILEVEL FORMULA

For increasing sequence of subspaces  $(V_\ell)_{\ell=1}^{\infty}$ , let

$$\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f := \Pi_L^{\text{LS}} f_0 + \sum_{\ell=1}^L \Pi_{L-\ell}^{\text{LS}} (f_\ell - f_{\ell-1})$$

$$(f_\ell := f_{h_\ell}, \Pi_\ell^{\text{LS}} := \Pi_{V_\ell, (y_n)_{n=1}^{N_\ell}}^{\text{LS}} \text{ with } N_\ell \approx (\dim V_\ell)^\theta \log \dim V_\ell)$$

**THEOREM (HAJI-ALI, NOBILE, TEMPONE, WOLFERS '17)**

If there is a normed space  $F \subset L^2_\mu(\Gamma)$  and subspaces  $(V_k)_{k=1}^\infty$  such that

- $\|f - f_h\|_F \lesssim h^\beta$
- $\|g - \Pi_{V_k}^{\text{best}} g\|_{L^2_\mu} \lesssim \|g\|_F (\dim V_k)^{-\alpha} \quad \forall g \in F, k \in \mathbb{N}$

there exists  $L > 0$  and sequences  $(V_{k_\ell})_{\ell=0}^L$  and  $(h_\ell)_{\ell=0}^L$  such that the corresponding multilevel approximation requires the work

$$\varepsilon^{-\max\{\gamma/\beta, \theta/\alpha\}} |\log \varepsilon|^r$$

(with some  $r = r(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \theta) > 0$  whose value is known) to achieve

$$\mathbb{E} \|\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f - f\|_{L^2_\mu(\Gamma)}^2 \leq \varepsilon^2.$$

## PROOF SKETCH – ACCURACY ESTIMATE

With  $f_{-1} := 0$ , we obtain

$$\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f - f_L = \sum_{\ell=0}^L (\Pi_{L-\ell}^{\text{LS}} - \text{Id})(f_\ell - f_{\ell-1}).$$

Hence,

$$\|\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f - f_L\|_{L_\mu^2} \leq \sum_{\ell=0}^L \|\Pi_{L-\ell}^{\text{LS}} - \text{Id}\|_{F \rightarrow L^2} \|f_\ell - f_{\ell-1}\|_F.$$

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- By assumption:

$$\|\Pi_\ell^{\text{LS}} - \text{Id}\|_{F \rightarrow L_\mu^2} \lesssim (\dim V_{k_\ell})^{-\alpha} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\|f_\ell - f_{\ell-1}\|_F \lesssim h_\ell^{-\beta}$$

- If we assume  $\alpha = \beta = 1$  and use  **$\dim V_{k_\ell} := 2^\ell$  and  $h_\ell := 2^{-\ell}$**  we obtain

$$\|\Pi_{L-\ell}^{\text{LS}} - \text{Id}\|_{F \rightarrow L_\mu^2} \lesssim 2^{-(L-\ell)} \quad \text{and}$$

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Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f - f\|_{L_\mu^2} &\leq \|\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f - f_L\|_{L_\mu^2} + \|f_L - f\|_{L_\mu^2} \\ &\leq \sum_{\ell=0}^L 2^{-(L-\ell)} 2^{-\ell} + 2^{-L} \\ &= 2^{-L}(L+2) \end{aligned}$$

## PROOF SKETCH – WORK ESTIMATE

The work at level  $\ell$  is  $N_{L-\ell} [\text{Work}(f_\ell) + \text{Work}(f_{\ell-1})]$ , thus

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Assuming that also  $\gamma = \theta = 1$ , we get

$$N_{L-\ell} = \dim V_{L-\ell} \log \dim V_{L-\ell} = 2^{L-\ell}(L - \ell)$$

$$\text{Work}(f_\ell) \lesssim h_\ell^{-1} = 2^\ell,$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Work}(\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f) &\lesssim \sum_{\ell=0}^L 2^{L-\ell} 2^\ell (L - \ell) \\ &\approx 2^L (L + 1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Work}(\Pi_L^{\text{ML}} f) &\lesssim \sum_{\ell=0}^L 2^{L-\ell} 2^\ell (L-\ell) \\ &\approx 2^L (L+1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Denoting the accuracy estimate by  $\varepsilon := 2^{-L}(L+2)$  we may conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Work}(\Pi_L^{\text{ML}}) &\lesssim \varepsilon^{-1} |\log \varepsilon|^3 \\ &= \varepsilon^{-\max\{\gamma/\beta, \theta/\alpha\}} |\log \varepsilon|^3 \end{aligned}$$

□

NAIVE MONTE CARLO

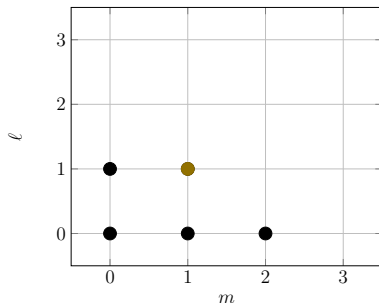
LEAST SQUARES

MULTILEVEL LEAST SQUARES

NUMERICS

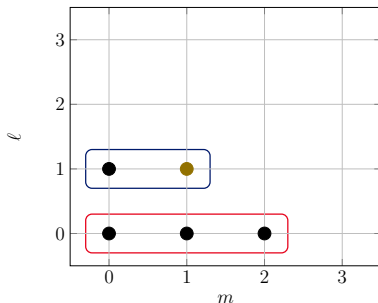
## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – SETUP

- Must choose subspaces to approximate  $f_\ell - f_{\ell-1}$  for all  $\ell$
- ▶ Fix basis and include or not each basis function for all  $\ell$
- ▶ **Subset selection in  $\mathbb{N}^{d+1}$** . For example:
  - For  $d = 1$ , the multi-index **(1, 1)** corresponds to coefficient of  $\phi_1$  in  $f_1 - f_0$ , etc.



## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – SETUP

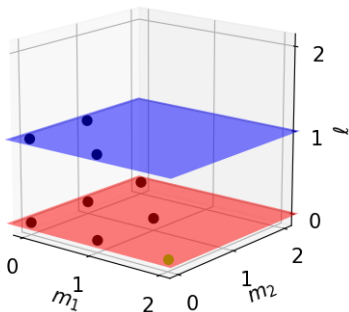
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$$\Pi_{(\phi_0, \phi_1, \phi_2)}^{\text{LS}} f_0 + \Pi_{(\phi_0, \phi_1)}^{\text{LS}} (f_1 - f_0)$$

## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – SETUP

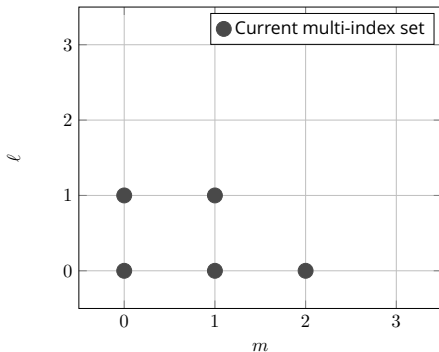
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- ▶ Fix basis and include or not each basis function for all  $\ell$
- ▶ **Subset selection in  $\mathbb{N}^{d+1}$** . For example:
  - For  $d = 1$ , the multi-index **(1, 1)** corresponds to coefficient of  $\phi_1$  in  $f_1 - f_0$ , etc.
  - For  $d = 2$ , the multi-index **(2, 0, 0)** corresponds to the coefficient of  $\phi_2 \otimes \phi_0$  in  $f_0$ , etc.



$$\Pi_{(\phi_{(0,0)}, \dots)}^{\text{LS}} f_0 + \Pi_{(\phi_{(0,0)}, \phi_{(0,1)}, \phi_{(1,0)})}^{\text{LS}} (f_1 - f_0)$$

## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – EXECUTION

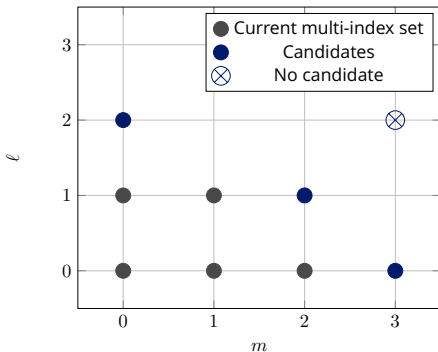
Mimic adaptive sparse grid algorithms (Gerstner'03, Hegland'03,...):



## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – EXECUTION

Mimic adaptive sparse grid algorithms (Gerstner'03, Hegland'03,...):

- Consider all neighbors of current set as candidates

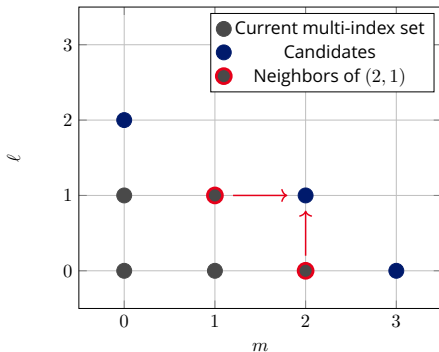




## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – EXECUTION

Mimic adaptive sparse grid algorithms (Gerstner'03, Hegland'03,...):

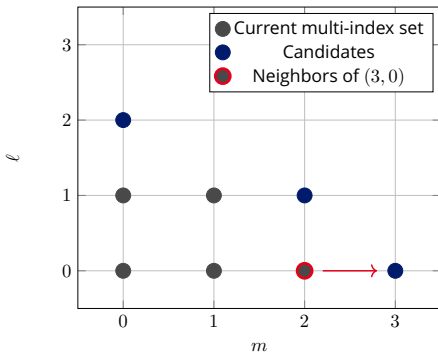
- Consider all neighbors of current set as candidates
- Estimate work and contribution of each candidate



## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – EXECUTION

Mimic adaptive sparse grid algorithms (Gerstner'03, Hegland'03,...):

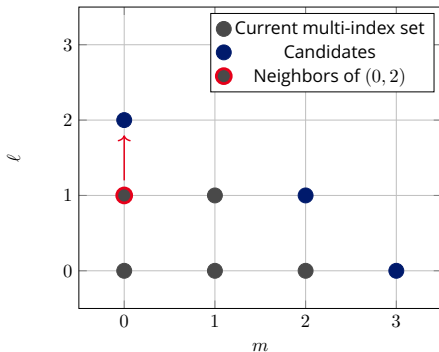
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## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – EXECUTION

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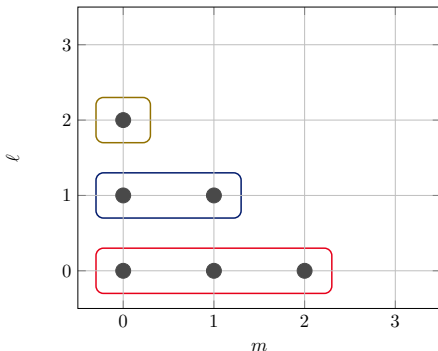
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## ADAPTIVE MULTILEVEL ALGORITHM – EXECUTION

Mimic adaptive sparse grid algorithms (Gerstner'03, Hegland'03,...):

- Consider all neighbors of current set as candidates
- Estimate work and contribution of each candidate
- Add index that maximizes contribution to work ratio



$$\Pi_{(\phi_0, \phi_1, \phi_2)} f_0 + \Pi_{(\phi_0, \phi_1)}(f_1 - f_0) + \Pi_{(\phi_0)}(f_2 - f_1)$$

## MIMCLIB

**Multi-Index Monte Carlo library**

<https://github.com/haji-ali/mimclib>

- Open source
- Python interface, C core
- Provides lots of informative plots
- Supports all kinds of multilevel and multi-index algorithms
- Archives runs in database

## TOY PROBLEM

- Consider

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(a_y \nabla u_y) = g & \text{in } U := [-1, 1]^2 \\ u_y = 0 & \text{on } \partial U \end{cases}$$

with

$$a_y(x) = 1 + |y|_2^s + |x|_2^r \quad \forall y \in \Gamma := [-1, 1]^d, x \in U$$

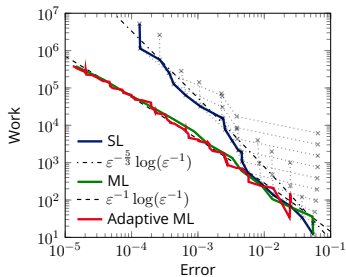
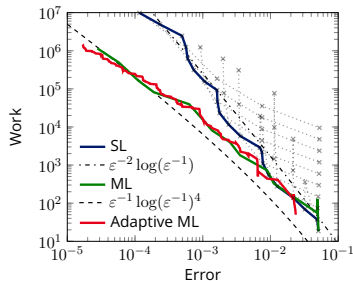
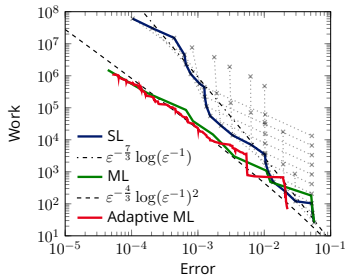
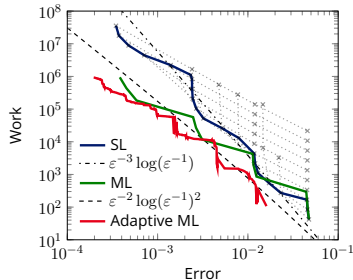
and  $r, s \geq 1$  uneven

- Let  $y \sim \operatorname{Unif}(\Gamma)$
- Goal:** Approximate

$$y \mapsto f(y) := \int_U u_y(x) dx$$

- Since  $a(y, x) := a_y(x) \in C^{s-1,1}(\Gamma) \otimes C^{r-1,1}(U)$  we have

$$\|f - f_h\|_{C^{s-1,1}=:F} \lesssim h^{r+1}$$

RESULTS ( $R=1, S=3$ )(a)  $d = 2$ (b)  $d = 3$ (c)  $d = 4$ (d)  $d = 6$

## SUMMARY

- Least squares approximation:
  - Quasi-optimal approximations with  $d$ -independent oversampling
  - Importance sampling is easy and effective



## SUMMARY

- Least squares approximation:
    - Quasi-optimal approximations with  $d$ -independent oversampling
    - Importance sampling is easy and effective
  - Multilevel least squares approximation:
    - Get rough idea of all coefficients from cheap  $f_0$ ; adjust important coefficients with few expensive samples
    - Stronger assumption: mixed regularity
- ⇓
- Stronger result: only complexity of PDE solution or of least squares approximation remains