

A joint model-based design of experiments approach for the identification of Gaussian Process models in geological exploration

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Introduction and Motivation

Problem Metals demands from electrification, infrastructure and industrial projects is projected to rise, but productivity remains low.

- Unknown subsurface must be modelled to avoid mine planning mistakes
- **High uncertainty** in model selection and parameter estimation; **few samples**
- Surrogate models are employed (**Kriging**^[5] a.k.a. **Gaussian Process**^[5] (GP))
- Funding of mining projects depends on promising initial sampling results
- **Industry standard**^[4] is to sample based on **qualitative expert decisions**, the **reduction of prediction variance** of one model or **space filling designs**

Solution A Model-Based Design of Experiments method is proposed that systematises exploration and model and parameter identification.

- **Parameter estimation** criterion reduces parametric uncertainty
- **Model discrimination** criterion includes prediction uncertainty at all locations (adjusted for Kriging models), model probability and prediction difference
- **Exploration criterion** minimises prediction variance and avoids local optima
- **Multi-objective** sampling procedure that optimises sampling for all objectives
- **Quantified metrics** of parameter uncertainty and model discrimination ability

Methodology

- Model consists of semivariogram and Kriging type (eq. 1-5, table 1)
- Parameter estimation objectives: estimates pass the t-test (fig. 5)
- Model discrimination objectives: correct models have low KL-divergence (fig. 4)

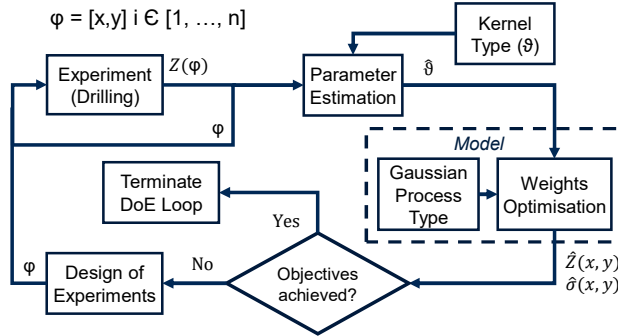


Figure 1 - Flowchart of proposed multi-objective MBDoE procedure.

Key Equations for Ordinary Kriging Models

- The **kernel of the GP**^[5] is **correlation function** $R(h)$, relating semivariance $\gamma(h)$, distance h and the distribution variance σ_Z^2 of concentrations.

$$\gamma(h) = \sigma_Z^2 - R(h) \quad (1)$$

- **Ordinary Kriging** gives the **best linear unbiased estimate** of the **mean expected concentration**, Z , and its variance, $\sigma_{\hat{Z}}^2$, using estimator \hat{Z} .

$$\sigma_{\hat{Z}}^2 = E \left[(Z - \hat{Z})^2 \right] \quad (2)$$

- Estimators based on samples Z_i and their relative importance weights w_i .

$$\hat{Z} = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i Z_i \quad (3)$$

- **Optimal weights** w_i found from samples i and j by substitution (3 into 2):

$$\sigma_{\hat{Z}}^2 = 2 \sum_{i=1}^N w_i R(Z_i, Z_i) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N w_i w_j R(Z_i, Z_j) \quad (4)$$

- And then **minimising the Kriging variance**: $\partial \sigma_{\hat{Z}}^2 / \partial w_i = 0$, giving matrices for: optimal weights, \mathbf{W} , correlation between sampled points \mathbf{A} , and sampled and unsampled locations \mathbf{P} . To then find the predictions^[2]:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N R(Z_i, Z_j) w_i = R(Z, Z_j) \quad (5)$$

Design Objective

- Improved Epsilon Constraint Method^[3] used to optimise multi-objective MBDoE^[2]
- The sensitivity matrix \mathbf{Q} is used to determine Fisher Information, \mathbf{H} .^[1]
- Determinant of \mathbf{H} is used as the scalar criterion to optimise estimability.^[1]

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial \theta_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial \theta_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_p}{\partial \theta_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_p}{\partial \theta_n} \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \frac{y_1 - \hat{y}_1}{\theta_1 - \hat{\theta}_1} & \dots & \frac{y_1 - \hat{y}_1}{\theta_n - \hat{\theta}_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{y_p - \hat{y}_p}{\theta_1 - \hat{\theta}_1} & \dots & \frac{y_p - \hat{y}_p}{\theta_n - \hat{\theta}_n} \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{exp}} \sum_{j=1}^{n_m} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma_{ij}^2} Q_{ij}^T Q_{ij} \right] \quad (7)$$

- Model discrimination: Schwaab Criterion^[2] (ψ^{MD}); variables as in eqns. 1-5
- Probability of models m and n , P_m , uses sum of Kriging variance instead of χ^2

$$\psi^{MD}(x, y, \vartheta) = \sum_{m=1}^{M-1} \sum_{n=m+1}^M (P_m, P_n) \mathbf{D}_{m,n}(x, y, \vartheta)^T \mathbf{V}_{m,n}^{-1}(x, y, \vartheta) \mathbf{D}_{m,n}(x, y, \vartheta) \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{m,n}(x, y, \vartheta) = [\hat{\mathbf{Z}}_m(x, y, \vartheta) - \hat{\mathbf{Z}}_n(x, y, \vartheta)] \quad (9)$$

$$V_{m,n}(x, y, \vartheta) = 2\sigma_{OK_{m,n}}(x, y, \vartheta) + \sigma_{OK_m}^2(x, y, \vartheta) + \sigma_{OK_n}^2(x, y, \vartheta) \quad (10)$$

$$\phi_m(\vartheta) = 1 / \sum_{x=1}^X \sum_{y=1}^Y \sum_{k=1}^K \sigma_{OK_m}(x, y, k, \vartheta) \quad (11)$$

$$P_m(\vartheta) = \frac{\phi_m(\vartheta)}{\sum_{m=1}^M \phi_m(\vartheta)} \quad (12)$$

- For exploration, the location with maximum Kriging variance (eq. 5) is chosen.

Case study

- In-silico case data generated using M1 with five random samples
- Five samples are selected randomly which constitute the initial information
- For all kernels: $\delta_{(i,j)}(h) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } h \in (i,j) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Table 1 - Two candidate Ordinary Kriging models with different kernel functions

Type of Kernel	Kernel Expression
M1: Spherical ^[5]	$\gamma(h) = \left\{ (s) \left(\frac{3h}{2r} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{h}{r} \right)^3 \right) \right\} \delta_{(0,r)}(h) + s \delta_{(r,\infty)}(h) + n \delta_{(0,\infty)}(h)$
M2: Gaussian ^[4]	$\gamma(h) = \left\{ (s) \left(1 - e^{-3 \frac{h^2}{r^2}} \right) \right\} \delta_{(0,r)}(h) + s \delta_{(r,\infty)}(h) + n \delta_{(0,\infty)}(h)$

Results

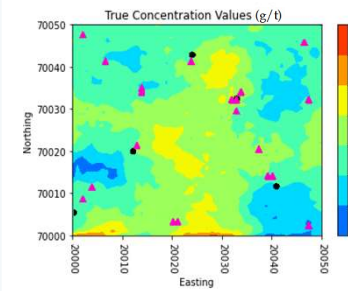


Figure 2 - Map of generated deposit with initial samples (•), MBDoE samples (▲)

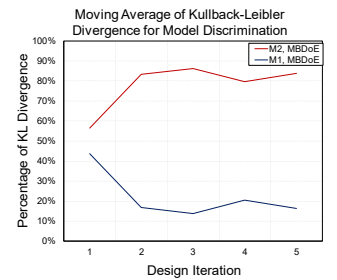


Figure 3 - Moving averages of model contributions to Kullback-Leibler Divergence

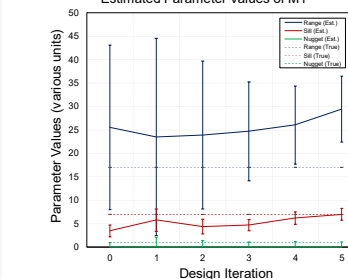


Figure 4 - Parameters: estimates and true values

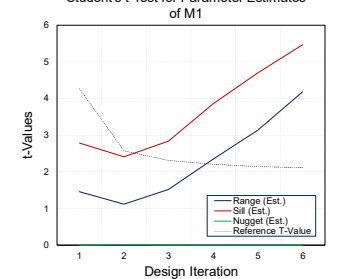


Figure 5 - Parameters: Student t-Test values of M1

- Experimental budget of **five design iterations** was spent (samples in fig. 1).
- Model discrimination **identified the true model** with 85% confidence (fig. 3).
- **KL-divergence** (fig. 3) shows **distance between distributions**; contribution of candidate models to **KL moving average** is sensitive discrimination metric.
- **Correct estimates** within error margin for **two parameters** (fig. 4).
- **Statistical significance** measured by **t-test** (fig. 5) based on degrees of freedom, error and estimated value used as **metric of parameter estimates**.
- **Exploratory component** assists in **avoiding local optima** for the other two objectives and to **reduce the prediction variance** in the process.

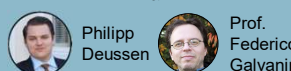
Conclusions

- MBDoE Procedure was proposed to optimise sampling for three design objectives
- Design criteria and success metrics, e.g. KL-divergence, were applied to Kriging
- True model and two of its parameters were identified; design space was explored

Future work

- Compare to industry-standard designs (space-filling, variance minimisation)
- Explore Monte Carlo methods in model discrimination and parameter estimation
- Explore average, instead of maximum, variance minimisation for exploration

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