

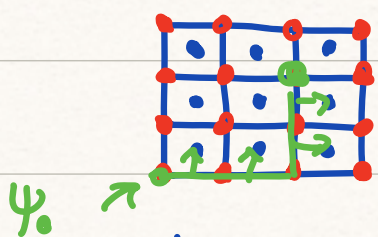
# Lecture 15: Correlated Random Fields

Logistics: - HW5 is due Thursday

=> last chance on HW3!

Last time: - Numerical Streamfunction

$$\underline{\psi} = \psi_0 - \int q_y dx + \int q_x dy$$



• located in corners

• cumsum

$\psi_0$

- Choose ref. point & order of integration  
(ref. point affects the constant)

Today: - Correlated random fields

=> generate heterogeneous fields

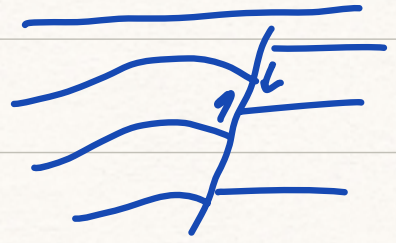
=> multiple realizations -> uncertainty

# Generating Correlated Random Fields

subsurface is heterogeneous at all scales!

- large scale geological structure

- smaller scale random variation within each geological unit



Both are important, but the random component introduces uncertainty even if large-scale structure is known.

⇒ generate large numbers of distinct ~~re~~ correlated random fields with the same statistics.

⇒ Geostatistics (PGE 337)

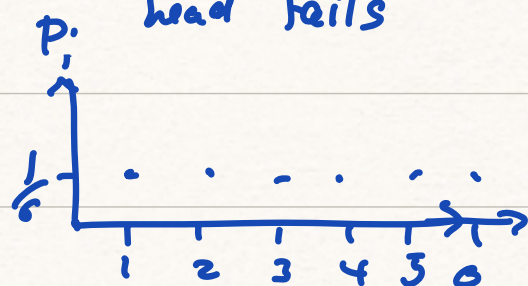
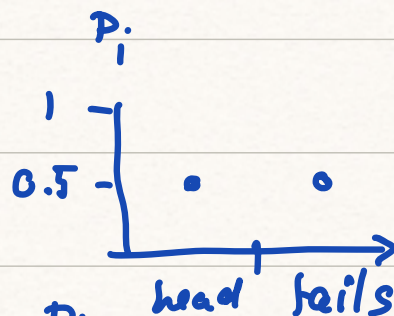
Some basic language:

Random variable  $X$ :

• discrete random var:

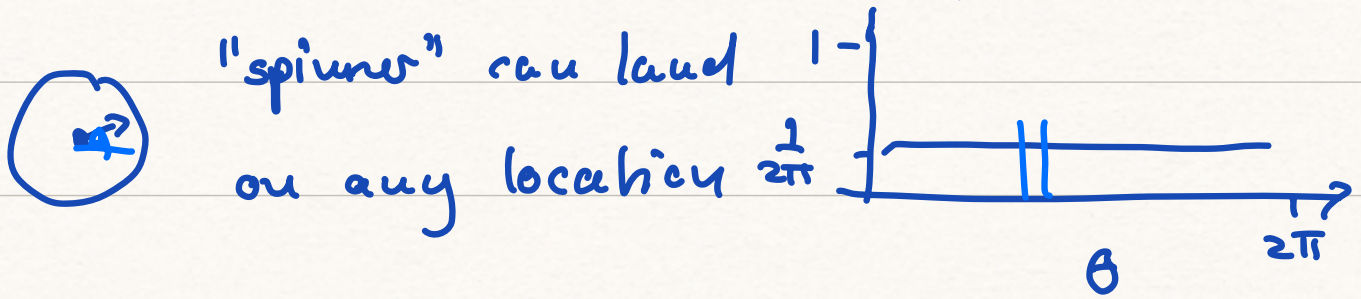
- coin toss

- dice roll



⇒ discrete events  $X_i$ ; discrete prob.  $P_i$

• continuous random variables  $P(\theta)$



⇒ Continuous probability density function

Parameters describing aquifers are continuous.

## Properties of random variables

1) Expected value (mean)

discrete:  $\underline{E(X)} = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i P_i = \underline{\mu}$

$X_i$  =  $i$ th outcome

$P_i$  = probability of  $i$ th outcome

continuous:  $\underline{E(X)} = \int X P(X) dX = \underline{\mu}$

2) Variance

squared deviation from mean

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = \sigma^2$$

$\sigma$  = standard deviation

Discrete: 
$$\text{Var}(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 p_i$$

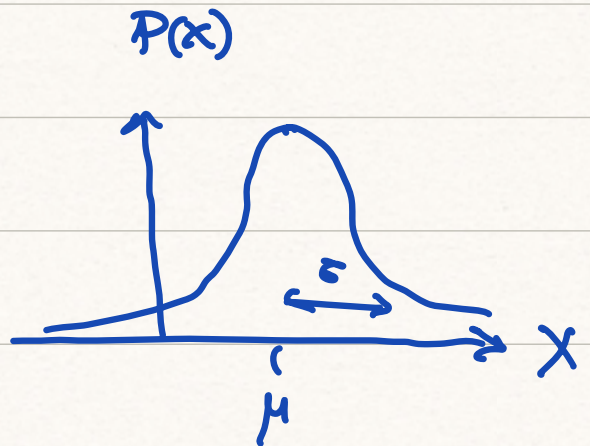
Continuous: 
$$\text{Var}(X) = \int (x - \mu)^2 P(x) dx$$

## Typical probability density functions

Normal distribution:

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

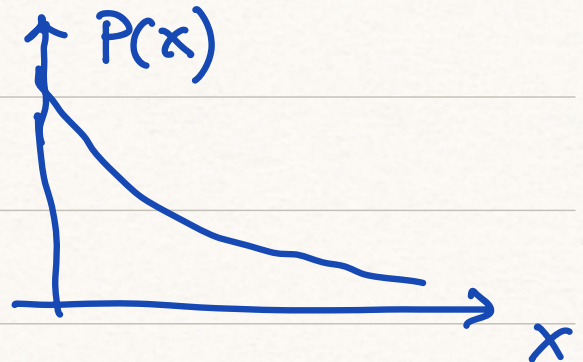
$\mu$  = mean       $\sigma$  = std. dev



Exponential distribution

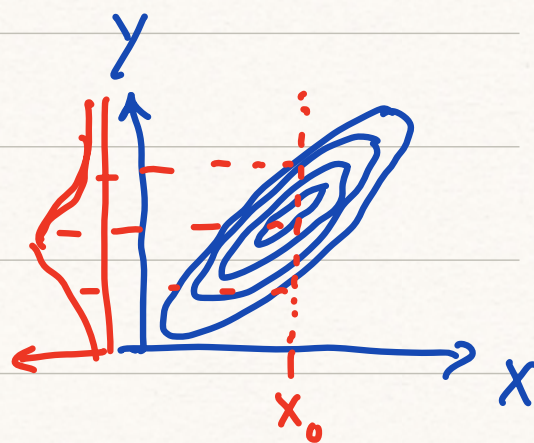
$$P(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \quad x \geq 0$$

$$E(X) = \mu = \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$



## Covariance & Correlation

If two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent, i.e., they are jointly distributed ( $P_{ij}, P(x,y)$ ) we can compute their covariance



$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)]$$

$$\text{Discrete: } \text{Cov}(X, Y) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N (x_i - \mu_X)(y_j - \mu_Y) p_{ij}$$

$$\text{Continuous: } \text{Cov}(X, Y) = \iint (x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y) P(x, y) dx dy$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2$$

Correlation:

$$\rho_{X, Y} = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

## Random Fields / Functions

So for no spatial extent!

Random field:  $Z = \{Z(\underline{x}) : \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$

where  $Z(\underline{x})$  is a scalar random variable at location  $\underline{x}$ .

If the field is stationary, i.e. statistics (E, Var) do not depend on  $\underline{x}$  then we can define covariance

$$C(\underline{h}) = \text{Cov}(Z(\underline{x}), Z(\underline{x} + \underline{h})) \quad \underline{h} \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

where  $\underline{h} = \underline{x} - \underline{x}$  is the lag vector ( $|\underline{h}|$  is distance)  
random

For an isotropic  $\downarrow$  field the covariance is only a function of distance  $h = |\underline{h}|$

Correlation function:  $\rho(h) = \frac{C(h)}{\sigma^2}$

Commonly used isotropic correlation functions:

1) Power exponential:

$$\rho(h) = \exp\left(-\left(\frac{h}{\kappa}\right)^\nu\right), \quad \kappa > 0, \quad 0 \leq \nu \leq 2$$

$\nu = 2 \Rightarrow$  gaussian/normal

2) Rational quadratic (Cauchy)

$$\rho(h) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{h}{\kappa}\right)^2\right)^\nu}, \quad \kappa > 0, \quad \nu > 0$$

3) Matérn

$$\rho(h) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\nu) 2^{\nu-1}} \left(\frac{2\sqrt{\nu} h}{\kappa}\right)^\nu K_\nu\left(\frac{2\sqrt{\nu} h}{\kappa}\right), \quad \kappa > 0, \quad \nu > 0$$

$K_\nu$  mod. Bessel function

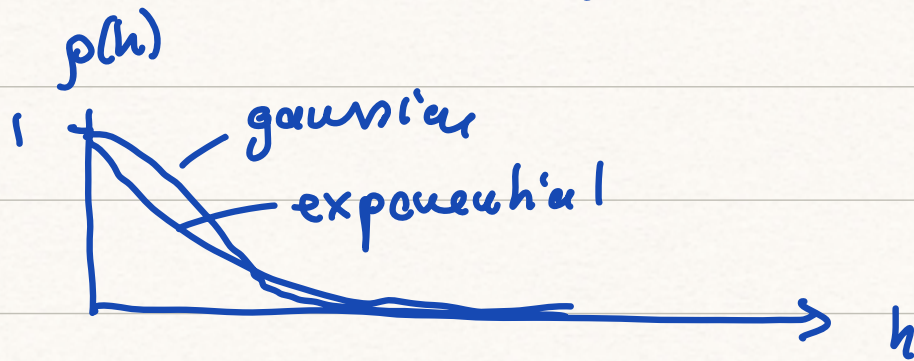
$\Gamma$  Gamma function

Matérn covariance fields are a parametrized family of fields that contain the most commonly used functions as limiting cases.

$\nu = \frac{1}{2}$  exponential correlation function

$\nu \rightarrow \infty$  Gaussian Normal correlation function

$\kappa$  controls how fast correlation decays.



## Generating a random field

Form covariance matrix

$$C_{ij} = \text{Cov}(x_i, x_j) \Rightarrow \text{given by correlation}$$

Standard sampling of field with specified

$\underline{C}$  is as follows:

$$\underline{m} = \underline{L} \underline{s} + \underline{\mu}$$

$\underline{\mu}$  = mean

$\underline{s}$  = white noise

$\underline{L}$  = Cholesky decomp.

of  $\underline{C}$  so that

$$\underline{C} = \underline{L}^T \underline{L}$$

Requires that we compute the Cholesky decomp.

$\Rightarrow$  both  $\underline{C}$  and  $\underline{L}$  are not sparse



limits the size of fields that can be generated.  
⇒ many ways of getting around this in Geostatistics

## Relation between Matérn correlation functions and Stochastic PDE

The real benefit of Matérn covariances is that they have been linked explicitly to solutions of SPDE. (Ludgren et al. 2011)

$$(-\nabla^2 + \kappa^2)^{\alpha/2} m = s$$

where  $s =$  white noise Gaussian  
random field with unit variance

$$\alpha = \nu + \frac{d}{2}$$

$d =$  dimension

$m =$  unknown parameter field

Our Helmholtz parameterization

choose  $\alpha = 2$

$$(-\gamma \nabla^2 + \delta) u = s$$

mod. Helmholtz equ

two parameters  $\gamma$  &  $\delta$

We can show:  $\rho \sim 2 \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{\delta}}$        $\sigma^2 \sim \frac{1}{\gamma \delta}$

Discretization:

$$\underbrace{(-\gamma \underline{D} * \underline{G} + \delta \underline{I})}_{\underline{L}} \underline{u} = \underline{s}$$

natural

solve with all  $\downarrow$  Neumann BC's