



# “Ensemblized” linear least squares (LLS)

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Iter. ens  
uses LLS

EnKF  
uses LLS

EAKF, ETKF  
uses LLS

EnKF

is LLS

LLS ⇒

avrg. grad



# Covariances and LLS regression

Let  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{y}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  be *centred* ensemble matrices:  $n$ -th column is  $\mathbf{x}_n - \bar{\mathbf{x}}$  and  $\mathbf{y}_n - \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ .

Recall covariance estimate,  $\bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}} := \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_n (\mathbf{y}_n - \bar{\mathbf{y}})(\mathbf{x}_n - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^\top \quad (1)$

$$= \frac{1}{N-1} \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}^\top \quad (2)$$

Define the ensemble LLS operator  $\bar{\nabla}$  as

$$\bar{\nabla}f := \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}} \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{x}}^+ \quad (3)$$

$$= \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}^\top (\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top)^+ \quad (4)$$

$$= \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}^+. \quad (\mathbf{A}^+ = \mathbf{A}^\top (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^\top)^+)$$

- ML
- If  $N \leq d_x$ , reproduces increments:  
 $[\mathbf{y}_n - \bar{\mathbf{y}}] = (\bar{\nabla}f)^\top [\mathbf{x}_n - \bar{\mathbf{x}}]$ .
- min-norm LLS, BLUE, MVUE
- Relates to: finite differences (FD), simplex derivatives



## Stein's lemma

Let  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{C}_x)$ , i.e.  $p(\mathbf{x}) \propto e^{-\|\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu}\|_{\mathbf{C}_x}^2/2}$ .

$$\mathbb{E} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \quad (5)$$

$$= - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\mathbf{x}) [\nabla p(\mathbf{x})]^\top d\mathbf{x} + \cancel{[f(\mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{n}]_{\partial \mathbb{R}^d}} \quad (6)$$

using integration by parts, and  $p(\mathbf{x}) \xrightarrow{\partial \mathbb{R}^d} 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But } \nabla p(\mathbf{x}) &= p(\mathbf{x}) \nabla \log p(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{C}_x^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu} - \mathbf{x}), \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\mathbb{E} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top d\mathbf{x} \mathbf{C}_x^{-1} \quad (7)$$

$$= \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{y,x} \mathbf{C}_x^{-1}. \quad (8)$$

Lastly, by Slutsky,  $\bar{\mathbf{C}}_{y,x} \bar{\mathbf{C}}_x^+ \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{} \mathbf{C}_{y,x} \mathbf{C}_x^{-1}$ .



## Stein's advantages

Raanes et al. (2019):

$$\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}^+ =: \bar{\nabla}f \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{} \mathbb{E} \nabla f(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{if } x \sim \mathcal{N} \quad (9)$$

Stordal et al. (2016):

$$= \nabla \mathbb{E} f(\mathbf{x})$$

Provides link to analytic gradient,  $\nabla f$ .

Better than solving order-1 Taylor @ mean:

$$\mathbf{Y} \approx \nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) \mathbf{X},$$

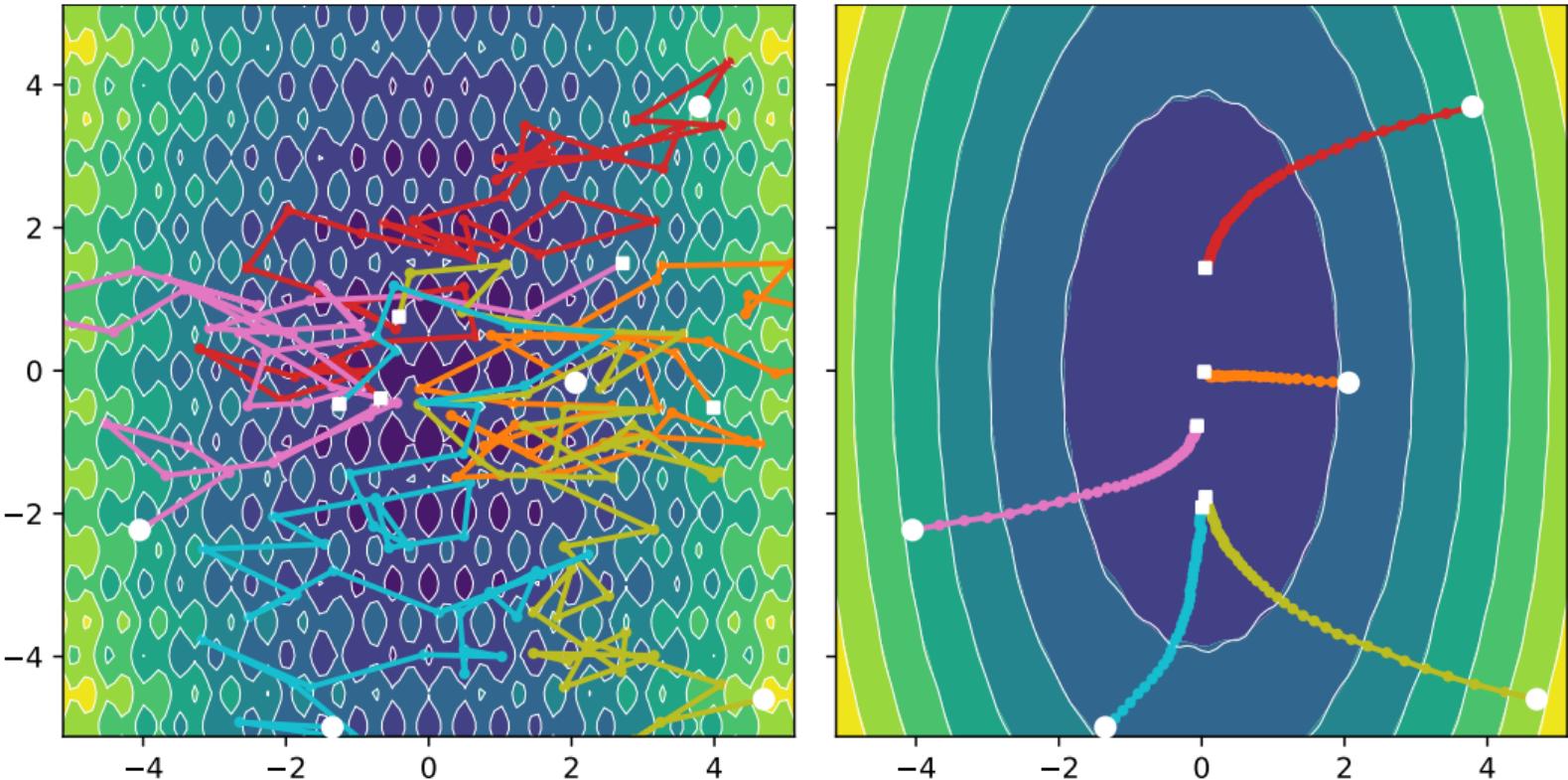
$$\text{i.e. } \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{y,x} \approx \nabla f(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) \bar{\mathbf{C}}_x,$$

because Stein (9)

- Shows what the *exact* target is.
- Shows that errors *cancel* as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Enables saying *average sensitivity* without blushing.



# Implicit blurring





## EnKFs use LLS



Recall

$$\mathbf{K} := \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}^T (\mathbf{H} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}^T + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \quad (10)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}} := \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}} (\bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{R})^{-1} \quad (11)$$

$$= \mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}^T (\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^T + (N-1) \mathbf{R})^{-1}. \quad (12)$$

As in **IES**, linearise  $f$ , i.e. use  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{P} \leftarrow \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T / (N-1) \\ \mathbf{H} \leftarrow \bar{\nabla} f = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{X}^+ \end{cases}$  in  $\mathbf{K}$  (10). Yields  $\bar{\mathbf{K}}$  (12). ✓

As in **EAKF**, first update in obs-space :  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{P} \leftarrow \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^T / (N-1) \\ \mathbf{H} \leftarrow \mathbf{I} \end{cases}$  in (10), then compute “reverse” LLS,  $\bar{\nabla}^{-1} f := \mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}^+$ , and apply to obs-update. Yields  $(\bar{\nabla}^{-1} f) \mathbf{K} = \bar{\mathbf{K}}$ . ✓

As in **ETKF**, update in ens. subspace:  $\overbrace{\mathbf{x} = \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}}^{\phi(\mathbf{w})}$  using  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{P} \leftarrow \bar{\mathbf{C}}_{\mathbf{w}} = \mathbf{I} / (N-1) \\ \mathbf{H} \leftarrow \bar{\nabla}(f \circ \phi) = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{I}^+ = \mathbf{Y} \end{cases}$

Then  $\phi$  “applied to”  $\mathbf{K}$  to revert to state space. Yields  $\bar{\mathbf{K}}$ . ✓

Could we have anticipated the equivalence?

Yes, by **chain rule** (Raanes et al., 2019), i.e.  $\bar{\nabla}(f \circ g) = \bar{\nabla}f \bar{\nabla}g$

# EnKF is LLS



What about  $\bar{\mathbf{K}}$  itself?

$$\text{Recall } \bar{\mathbf{K}} := \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^T(\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}^T + (N-1)\mathbf{R})^{-1} \quad (13)$$

$$\text{Then: } \frac{1}{N-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^T \approx \mathbf{R} \quad \text{yields} \quad \approx \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^T(\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}^T + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}^T)^+ \quad (14)$$

$$\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}} := \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{D}, \quad \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{D}^T \approx \mathbf{0} \quad \text{yields} \quad \approx \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^T(\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}}\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}}^T)^+ \quad (15)$$

$$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{D}^T \approx \mathbf{0} \quad \text{yields} \quad \approx \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}}^T(\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}}\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}}^T)^+ \quad (16)$$

$$\mathbf{A}^T(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T)^+ = \mathbf{A}^+ \quad \text{yields} \quad = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}_{\text{noisy}}^+ \quad (17)$$

$$f_{\text{noisy}}(\mathbf{x}) := f(\mathbf{x}) + \varepsilon \quad \text{yields} \quad =: \bar{\nabla}^{-1}f_{\text{noisy}}. \quad (18)$$

(Snyder, 2015)

$\implies \bar{\mathbf{K}} = \bar{\nabla}^{-1}f_{\text{noisy}}$  “inverts” model + noise.

$\implies$  Can estimate  $(\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}})$  by applying it to  $(\mathbf{y} - \bar{\mathbf{y}})$ , i.e.

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}) := \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \bar{\mathbf{K}}(\mathbf{y} - \bar{\mathbf{y}}) \checkmark \quad (19)$$



## EnKF is LLS (continued)

But  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}) := \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \bar{\mathbf{K}}(\mathbf{y} - \bar{\mathbf{y}})$  only yields the mean update.  
What about the full ensemble?

For UQ, add a random error:  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}) + \boldsymbol{\xi}$ ,  
so as to “explain” residuals, i.e.

$$\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim \mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}). \quad (20)$$

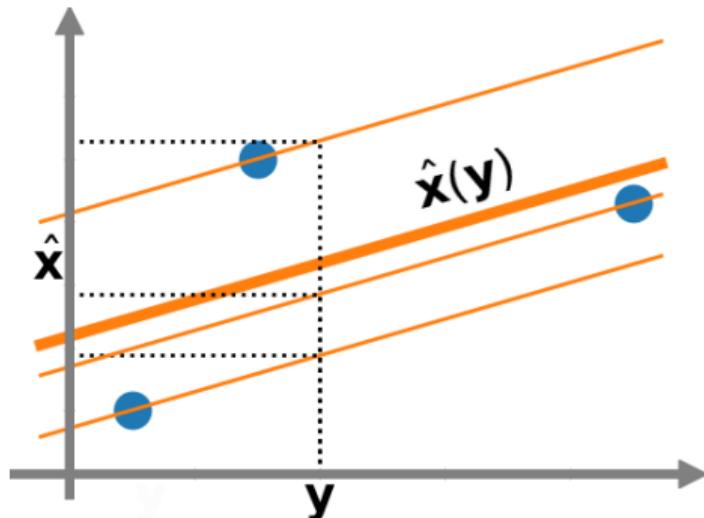
For example, for all  $n$ :

$$\boldsymbol{\xi}_n = \mathbf{x}_n - \hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}_n^{\text{noisy}}) \quad (21)$$

Then

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}) + \boldsymbol{\xi}_n = \mathbf{x}_n + \bar{\mathbf{K}}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_n^{\text{noisy}}). \checkmark \quad (22)$$

Alternative: moment matching,  
yielding square-root update schemes.





## Summary

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EAKF, ETKF  
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EnKF  
is LLS  
LLS  $\Rightarrow$   
avrg. grad





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