Learning parameter dependent electromagnetic field solutions using Gaussian processes



Proposal for a Bachelor's thesis | Master's thesis | Seminar topic Study field: Computational Engineering | Electrical Engineering | Mathematics September 24, 2025



Description

When dealing with complex engineering systems, obtaining many field solutions in multi-query scenarios such as design optimization, uncertainty quantification or coupled simulations can become prohibitively expensive. A possible remedy for this problem are so-called surrogate models, which provide a less accurate but computationally cheaper approximation of the field solution. One common type of surrogate model are Gaussian processes (GPs) [1], which often possess advantages in terms of training cost and quality of approximation compared to standard neural network approaches.

In previous work, we developed an approach for constructing GP surrogates of parameter dependent stiff ODE solutions using reparameterizations, see Figure 1 and Figure 2. The aim of this thesis is to extend that approach to the 2D case, illustrating its flexibility and enabling a larger range of applications.

Work plan

- Read up on 1D approach and how it can be extended to 2D.
- Implement 2D approach and study different examples, e.g. varying source terms or materials. Compare to standard GP approaches.

Prerequisites

Good programming skills. Preferably basic knowledge of Julia, but Python or MATLAB/Octave sufficient.

References

[1] Carl E. Rasmussen and Christopher K. I. Williams. *Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning*. Ed. by Thomas Dietterich. The MIT Press, 2006.

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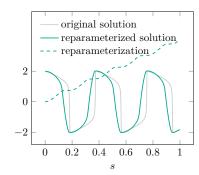


Figure 1: Original and reparameterized solutions.

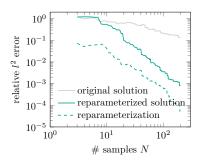


Figure 2: GP convergence corresponding to Figure 1.

