

# RECENT ADVANCES IN KERNEL METHODS FOR COMPUTER EXPERIMENTS

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# Outline

**Context – Computer experiments**

**Gaussian process regression**

**Design of experiments with kernels**

**Sensitivity analysis with kernels**

**Conclusion & outlook**

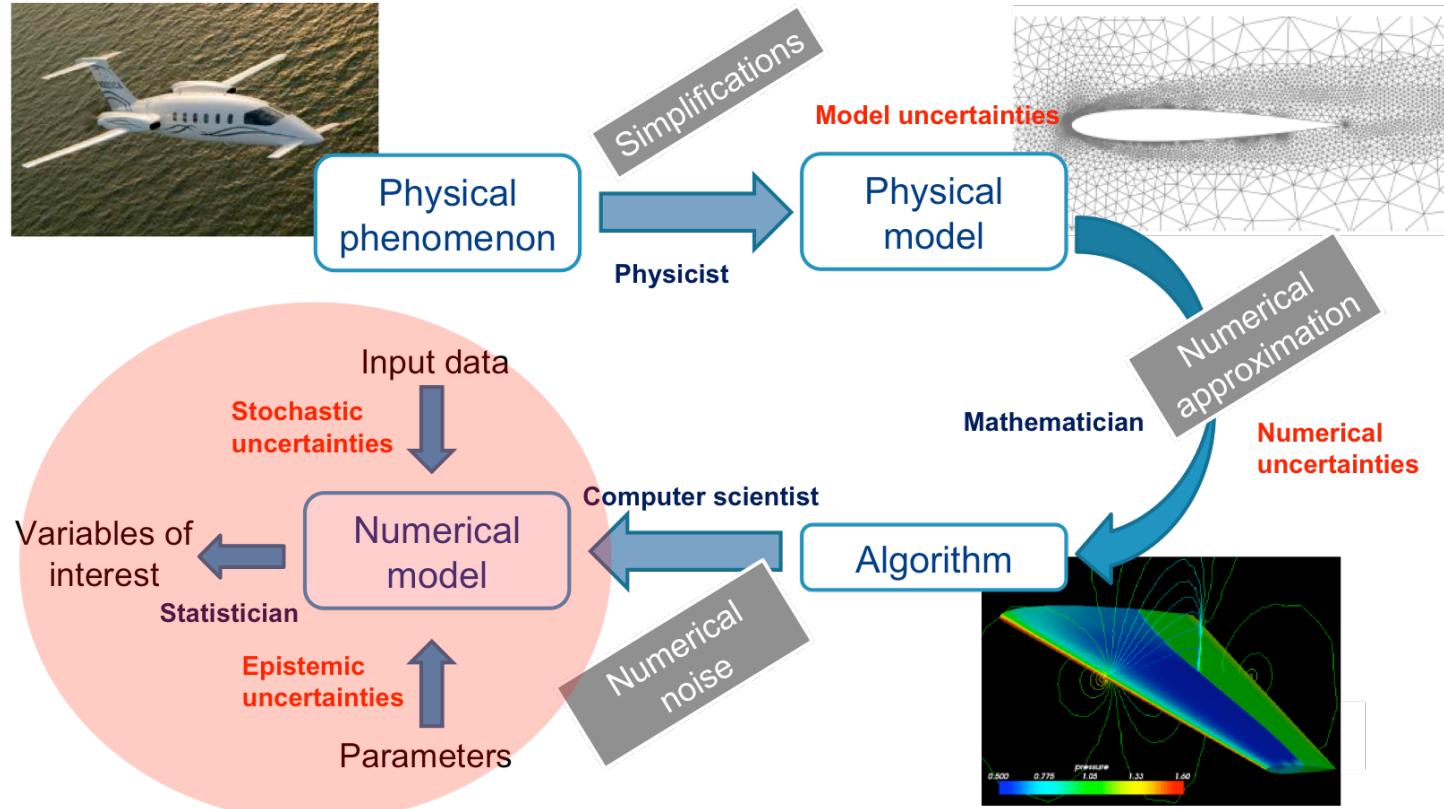
# 0

## CONTEXT

## COMPUTER EXPERIMENTS



# Context



## Étape C : Propagation des sources d'incertitude

Context

### Étape B: Quantification des sources d'incertitudes

Modélisation par  
des distributions



### Étape A : Spécification du problème

#### Variables d'entrée

Incertaines :  $\underline{x}$   
Fixées :  $\underline{d}$

**Modèle**  
(ou processus de  
mesure)  
 $G(\underline{x}, \underline{d})$

**Variables  
d'intérêt**  
 $Z = G(\underline{x}, \underline{d})$

**Quantité  
d'intérêt**  
Ex: variance,  
probabilité ..



### Étape C' : Analyse de sensibilité, Hiérarchisation

**Rebouclage  
(feedback)**

**Critère de décision**  
Ex: Probabilité  $< 10^{-b}$

# Context – Computer experiments

## The model

- Regular, with symmetries, invariances and physical constraints
- **Most of the time, very expensive to evaluate (large systems of PDEs)**
- Will then be replaced by a surrogate model for all UQ and optimization studies
  - ◆ A popular one is Gaussian Process (GP) regression → Part 1

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## The design of experiment

- For building the surrogate, we need a sample of inputs / outputs obtained by evaluating the expensive model
- The particularity here is that we can choose how we build this DOE
- Large literature on LHS and space-filling designs
- **Recent work on kernel embeddings of distributions provides a new paradigm for improving our practice** → Part 2

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## Sensitivity analysis aka Feature importance

- Invaluable tool for engineers, mostly centered around Sobol' indices and Shapley effects
- **Once again, kernel methods can extend and improve previous practice** → Part 3

# 1

## GP REGRESSION

### QUICK RECAP, RECENT ADVANCES & CHALLENGES

# Standard GP regression

## Notations

- > Computer code  $g : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
  - > Inputs  $\mathbf{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^D)$
  - > Output  $y = g(\mathbf{x})$
  - > Observations  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)_{i=1, \dots, n}$
- $$X_s = [\mathbf{x}_1^T, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n^T]^T \quad Y_s = [y_1, \dots, y_n]^T$$

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## Model: Output seen as realization of stationary Gaussian process

$$Y(\mathbf{x}) = g_0(\mathbf{x}) + U(\mathbf{x}) \quad g_0(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^J \beta_j g_j(\mathbf{x}) = G(\mathbf{x})\beta \\ C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sigma^2 R(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

# Standard GP regression

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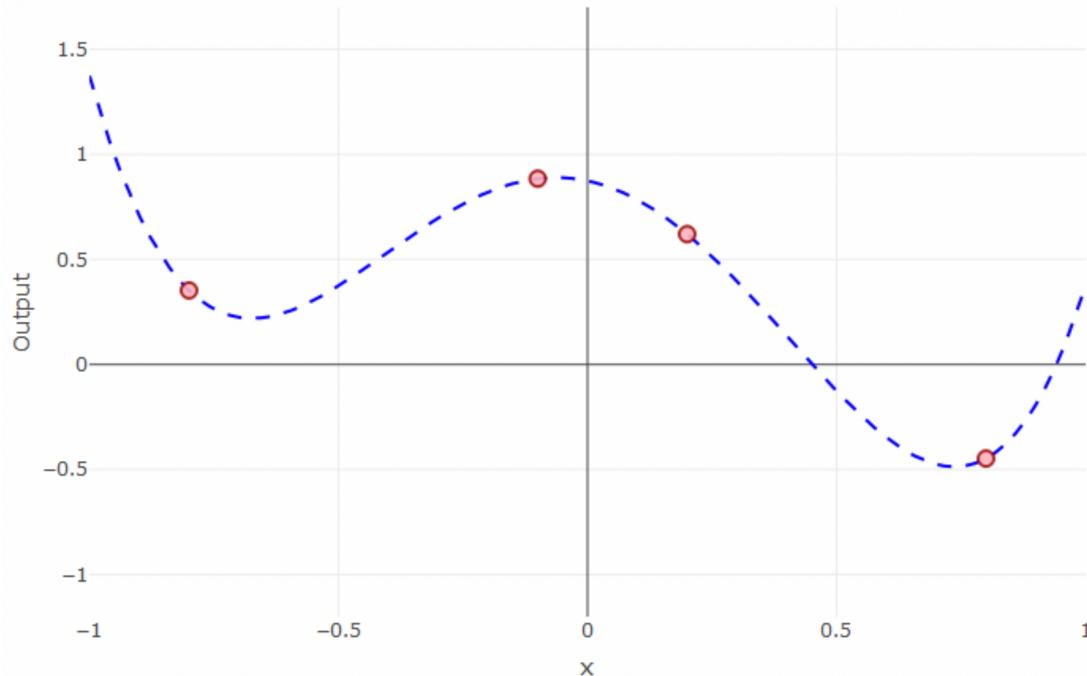
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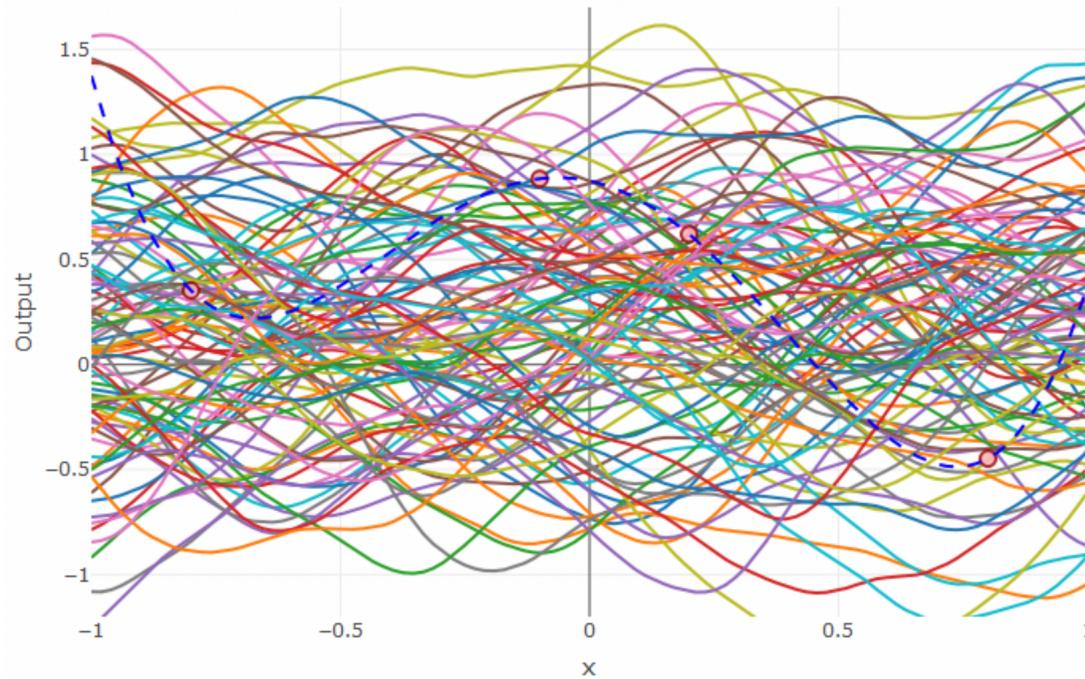
**Conditioning on the observations**

$$\tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) = [Y(\mathbf{x}^*) | Y(X_s) = Y_s]$$

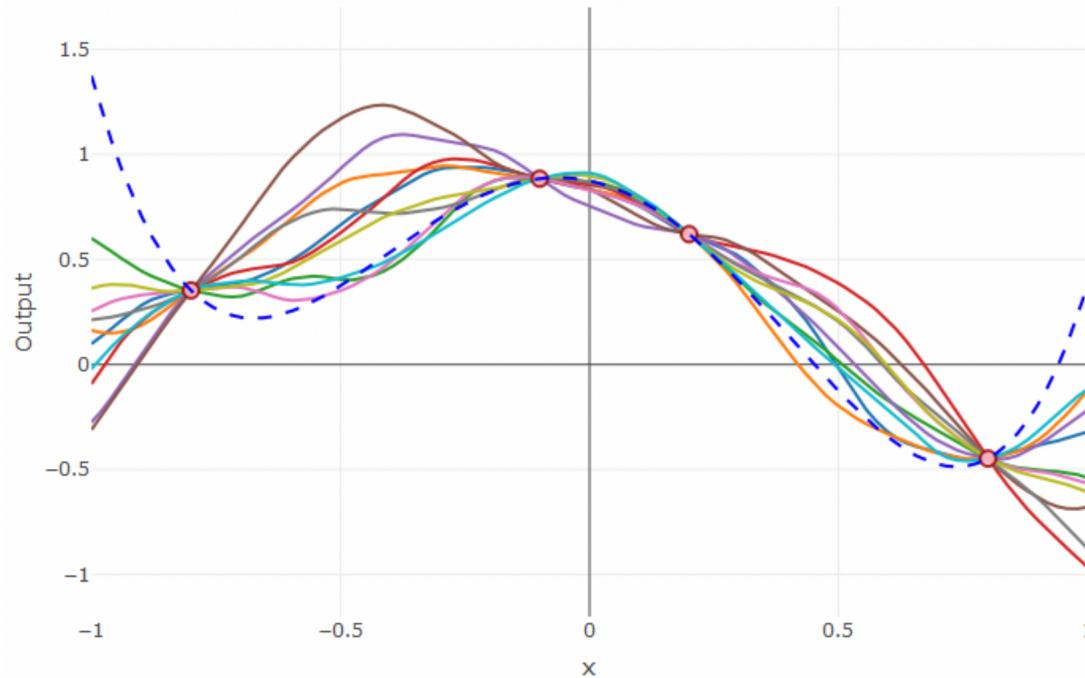
## Standard GP regression



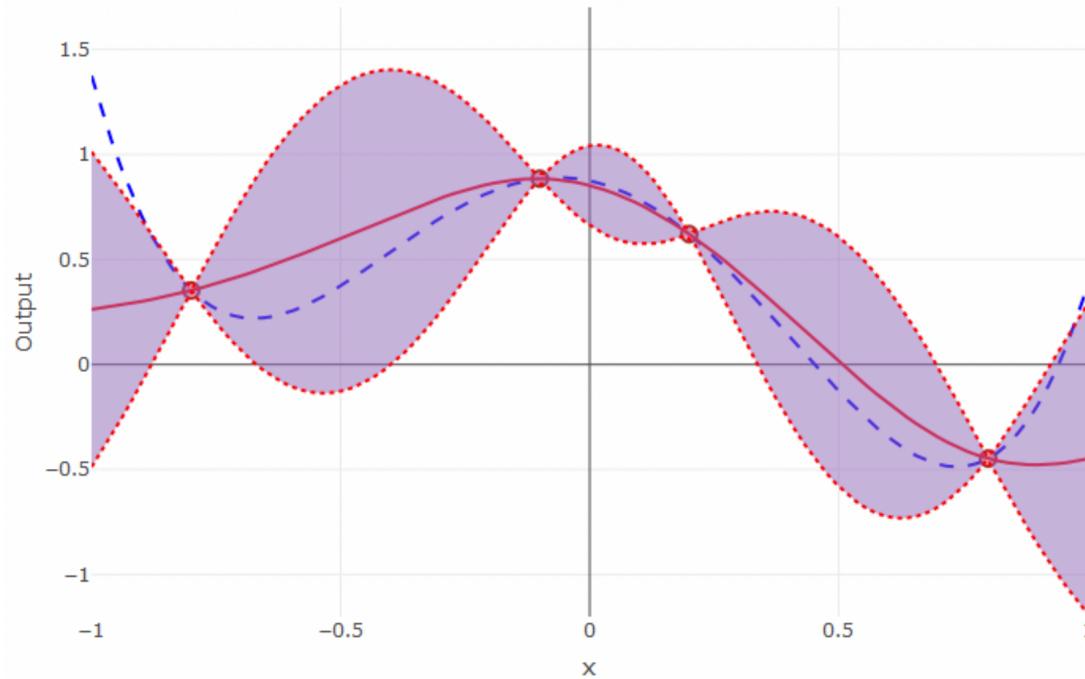
## Standard GP regression



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## Standard GP regression



# Standard GP regression

## Very popular in industrial applications

- Showed great operational success on thousands of real test cases in moderate dimension ( $\sim 15\text{-}20$  inputs)
- Convenient Bayesian paradigm to propose additional simulations for sequential DOEs targeting a specific goal

## Challenge 1: deal with high-dimensional inputs

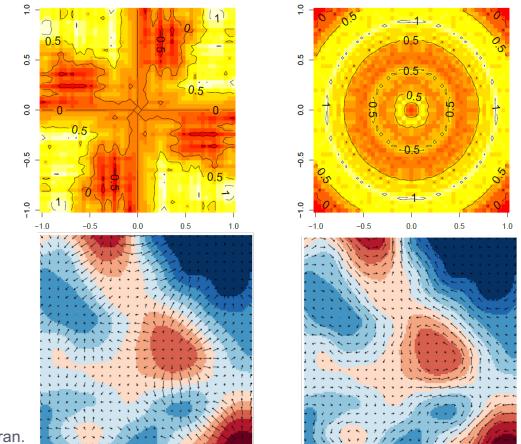
- Coupling with sparsity (Yi et al. 2011, Cao et al. 2022)
- Coupling with sensitivity analysis tools from Part 3 (Iooss & Marrel 2019)
- Additive kernels with sparsity (SS-ANOVA, Cossio)
- Transformations to be as close as possible from an additive model (Lin & Joseph 2020)
- Transformations via normalizing flows (Maroñas et al. 2021)

$$y = g^{-1}\{\mu + z_1(x_1) + \dots + z_p(x_p)\}$$
$$z_k(x_k) \sim GP(0, \tau_k^2 R_k(\cdot)),$$

# Standard GP regression

## Challenge 2: incorporate constraints from physics

- > Very often, computer codes simulate real physical phenomena, which usually have specific properties
  - ◆ Symmetries
  - ◆ Bound constraints (e.g. concentrations between 0 and 1, ...)
  - ◆ Monotonicity w.r.t. some input variables
  - ◆ Solutions of PDEs (e.g. null Laplacian, divergence or curl free, ...)
- > It is of great interest to incorporate such constraints in the proxy model
  - ◆ Physics and expected behavior are respected (engineers like that !)
  - ◆ Predictions and robustness may be improved
- > Linear **equality** constraints are easy to handle in the GP framework (Ginsbourger et al. 2013, Scheuerer and Schlather 2012)
- > **But bounds and monotonicity are inequality ones**



# GP regression with inequality constraints

To incorporate the constraints, we propose to keep the conditional expectation framework

- > Predictions are equal to the expectation of the GP (conditioned at the observations) given that it respects the inequality constraints

For example, the corresponding predictor for bound or monotonicity constraints may be

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mid \forall \mathbf{x} \in I, a \leq \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}) \leq b \right) \quad \mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mid \forall \mathbf{x} \in I, \frac{\partial \tilde{Y}}{\partial x^j}(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \right)$$

- > Note the link with extrema of random fields ...

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mid \min_{\mathbf{x} \in I} \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}) \geqslant a, \max_{\mathbf{x} \in I} \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}) \leqslant b \right)$$

- > ... but no tractable formula exists for joint distributions in the general case

## GP regression with inequality constraints

We thus propose a discrete-location approximation:

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mid \forall i = 1, \dots, N, a \leq \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}_i) \leq b \right) \quad \mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mid \forall i = 1, \dots, N, \frac{\partial \tilde{Y}}{\partial x^j}(\mathbf{x}_i) \geq 0 \right)$$

> Same approximation in Riihimaki and Vehtari 2010, Wang and Berger 2011

This generalizes easily to other constraints

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) \mid \forall k = 1, \dots, K, \forall i = 1, \dots, N_k, a_i^{(k)} \leq Z^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)}) \leq b_i^{(k)} \right)$$

$$Z^{(k)} = \mathcal{L}^{(k)} \left[ \tilde{Y} \right]$$

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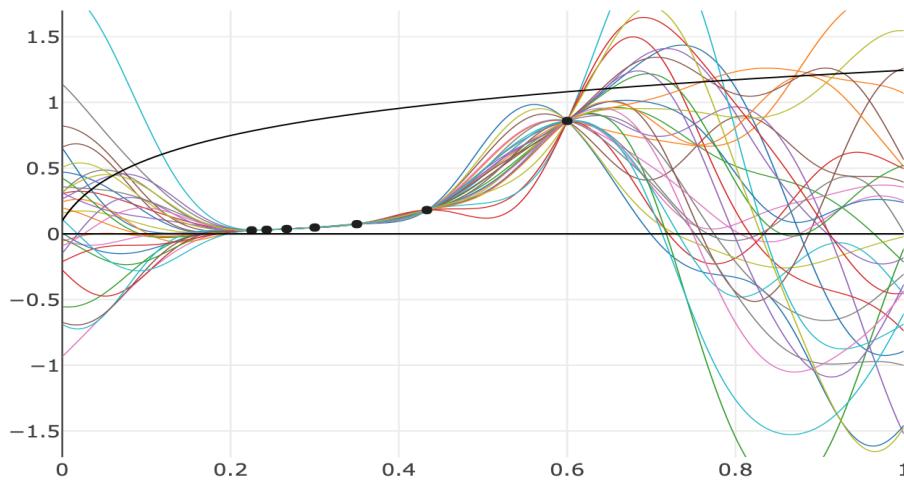
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$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b} \right)$$

# GP regression with inequality constraints

## Standard framework:

- Take all trajectories which interpolate the observations
- Compute the average to get the kriging predictor
- (If desired, the variance yields a measure of accuracy)

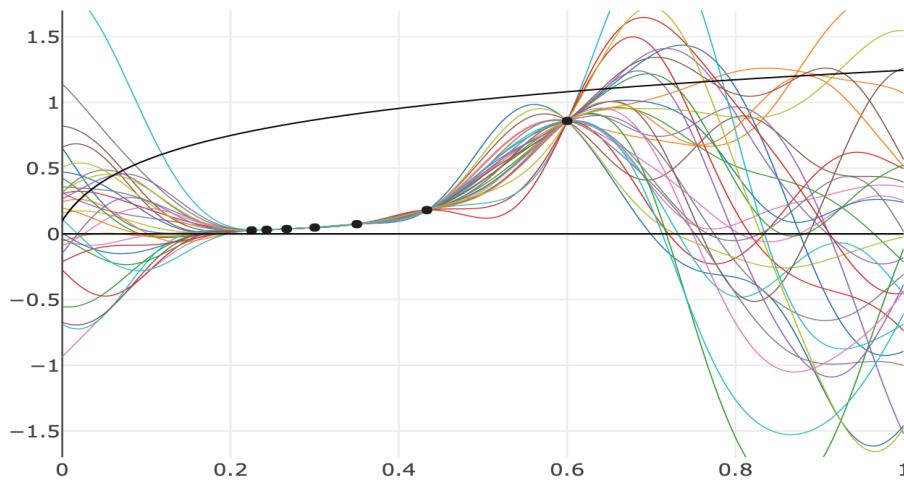


Agrell 2019

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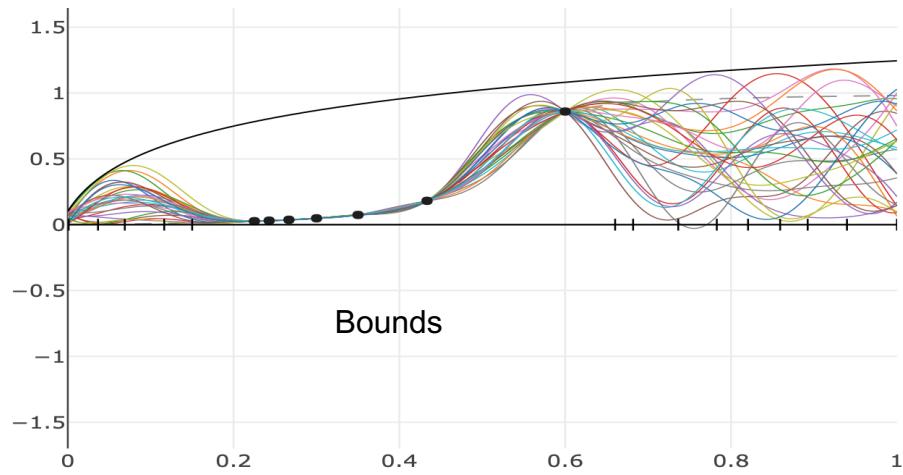
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Agrell 2019

## Here:

- Take all trajectories which interpolate the observations
- Select those which respect the constraints of bounds, monotonicity, ...
- Compute the average to get the new kriging predictor
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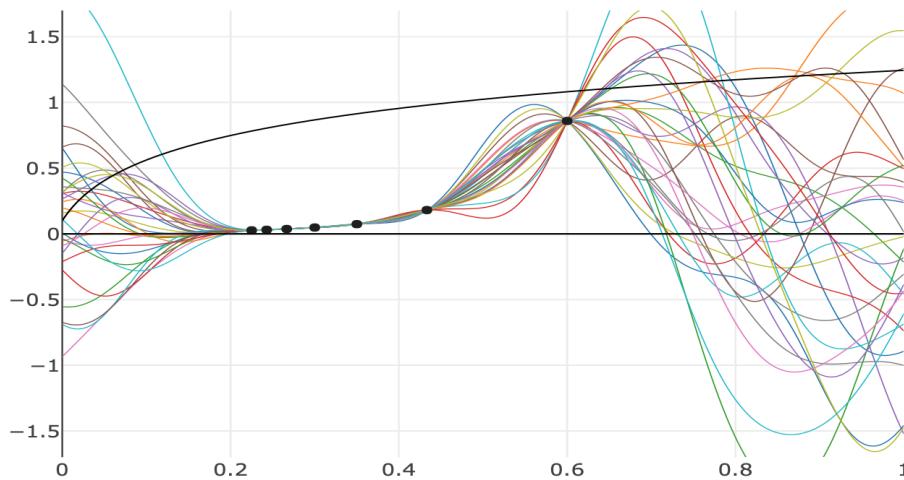


 SAFRAN

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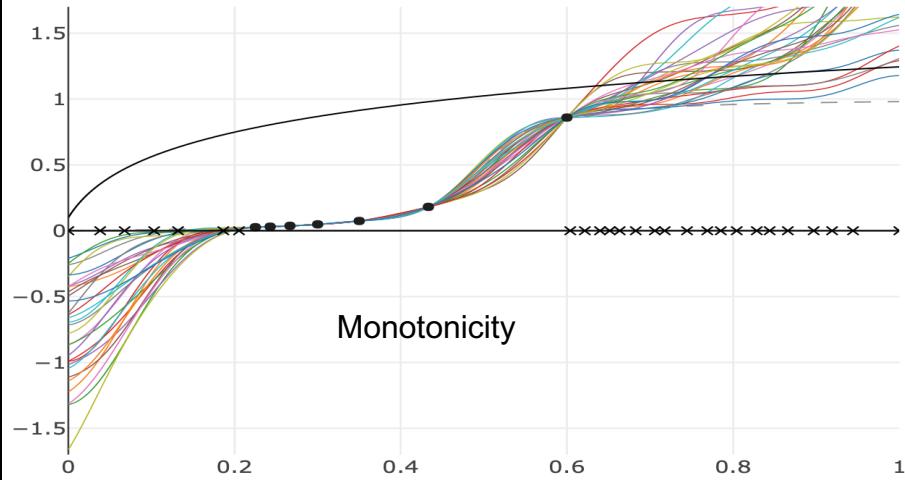
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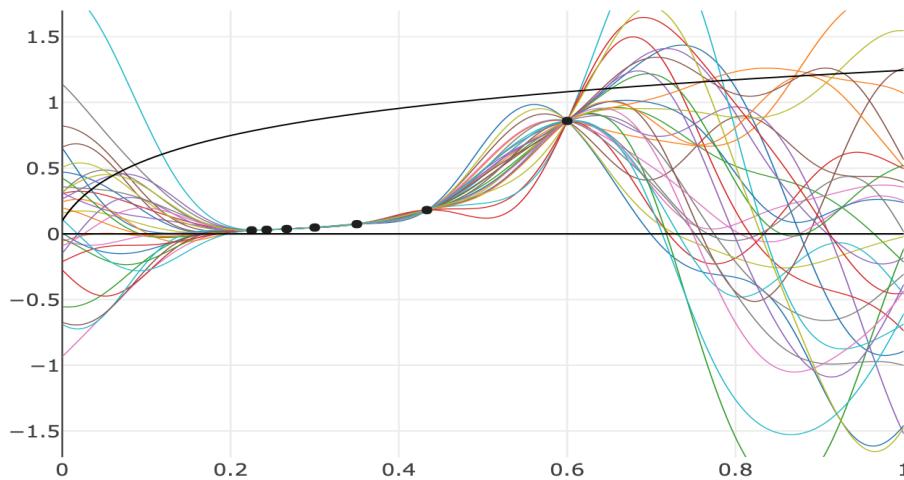


 SAFRAN

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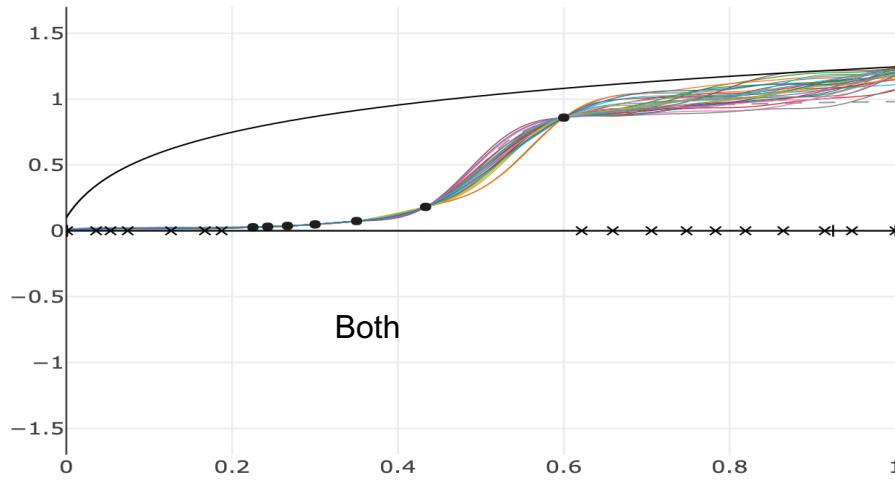
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Both

# GP regression with inequality constraints

But how can we compute such expectations ?

This is where the linearity assumption comes into play

- > Bounds, monotonicity, integral, divergence/curl constraints are linear w.r.t. the output
- > The GP obtained by stacking the output and the quantities related to the constraints is then a GP too

$$\mathbf{W} = \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*), \mathbf{Z} \right) \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}^*) \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{x}^*) & \Sigma_{\tilde{Y}\mathbf{Z}} \\ \Sigma_{\tilde{Y}\mathbf{Z}}^T & \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

Kotz et al. 2010

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b} \right) = \tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}^*) + \Sigma_{\tilde{Y}\mathbf{Z}} \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\nu}_{\mathbf{Z}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}})$$

$$\text{Var} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b} \right) = \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{x}^*) - \Sigma_{\tilde{Y}\mathbf{Z}} \left( \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} - \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_{\mathbf{Z}} \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} \right) \Sigma_{\tilde{Y}\mathbf{Z}}^T$$

## GP regression with inequality constraints

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \tilde{Y}(\mathbf{x}^*) | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b} \right) = \tilde{\mu}(\mathbf{x}^*) + \Sigma_{\tilde{Y}\mathbf{Z}} \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} (\nu_{\mathbf{Z}} - \mu_{\mathbf{Z}})$$

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$$\nu_{\mathbf{Z}} = \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b})$$

$$\Gamma_{\mathbf{Z}} = \text{Var}(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b})$$

- > The problem reduces to compute **moments of a multivariate normal vector subject to linear inequality constraints**
- > Key object is then the **truncated normal distribution**

# The truncated multivariate normal distribution

The expectation and variance are our goal here

Available formulas involve Gaussian integrals with dimensionality equal to the number of points where we impose the constraints

We thus need efficient approximations when this number is large (as it should be !)

> Genz numerical approximation of Gaussian integrals (Genz 1992)

> Sampling from a truncated Gaussian

> Correlation-free formula (« crude » covariance tapering)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(Z_i | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b}) &\approx \mathbb{E}(Z_i | a_i \leq Z_i \leq b_i) \\ &\approx \mu_i + \sigma_i \frac{\phi(\tilde{a}_i) - \phi(\tilde{b}_i)}{\Phi(\tilde{b}_i) - \Phi(\tilde{a}_i)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(Z_i | \mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{Z} \leq \mathbf{b}) &\approx \text{Var}(Z_i | a_i \leq Z_i \leq b_i) \\ &\approx \sigma_i^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\tilde{a}_i \phi(\tilde{a}_i) - \tilde{b}_i \phi(\tilde{b}_i)}{\Phi(\tilde{b}_i) - \Phi(\tilde{a}_i)} - \left( \frac{\phi(\tilde{a}_i) - \phi(\tilde{b}_i)}{\Phi(\tilde{b}_i) - \Phi(\tilde{a}_i)} \right)^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

# Going from simple examples to realistic industrial applications

## Efficient generalization to higher dimensional problems is not so easy

- > From a theoretical perspective, no change in the formulas
  - However, « spanning » the subset where we impose constraints will necessitate much more constraint points in the discrete-location approximation
  - Genz numerical integration and sampling cannot be used with tens of thousands of constraints
- > The idea is to use the correlation induced among the constraint points (and with the observations)
  - **It is not necessary to place constraint points where the predictor has a high probability to respect the constraints (e.g. close to another constraint point, or where the prediction variance is very low)**

## Adaptive strategy for the constraint locations

This motivates the design of an adaptive strategy for choosing the constraints locations

The key here is to compute the probability that the constrained predictor does not respect the constraint at any point

- > Obviously this is not a nice and friendly normal distribution as in standard GP regression
- > It involves the CDF of a truncated normal distribution, two ways to handle it:
  - ◆ Use a truncated normal sampling algorithms (Agrell 2019, Perrin and D. 2021)
  - ◆ Make a crude but fast normal approximation (D. and Marrel 2019)

Constraint points are thus added one at a time, at locations where this probability is the highest

# Recent subsequent improvements

## Other adaptive criteria can be used (Perrin and D. 2021)

- > A variant inspired by Expected Improvement
- > Two extensions to go from point-wise to integral criteria
- > Integral criteria seem to perform better

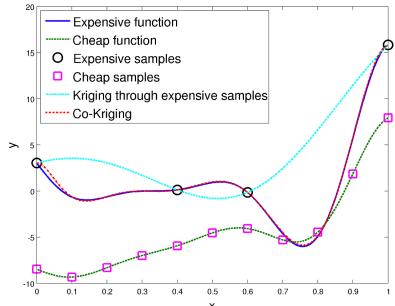
## Hyperparameters estimation

- > Here we estimate it on the initial GP, **so we don't account for the constraints**
- > This leads to potential unexpected behaviours for the final constrained predictor
  - ◆ In particular we may need to add more locations for constraints than usual
- > Recent works on MLE with constraints: do not appear to lessen this problem as much as expected
- > Promising solution: write a MLE maximization with constraints (Perrin and D. 2021)

# Standard GP regression

## Challenge 3: make use of all available simulation data

- Sometimes, simpler but cheaper simulation models are available
  - ◆ The idea is then to combine datasets coming from different simulators to build a more predictive surrogate model, this is called a multi-fidelity surrogate model
  - ◆ For GP, often based on co-kriging (Le Gratiet & Garnier 2014)
  
- It also happens that during a complex design process, input variables are added sequentially
  - ◆ Consequently, several DOE with different dimensions are available
  - ◆ Can we combine them? → see T. Gonon's talk in this session!



Zhang et al. 2013

# 2

## DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS WITH KERNELS

# Design of experiments for computer simulations

## Space-filling designs are extremely popular

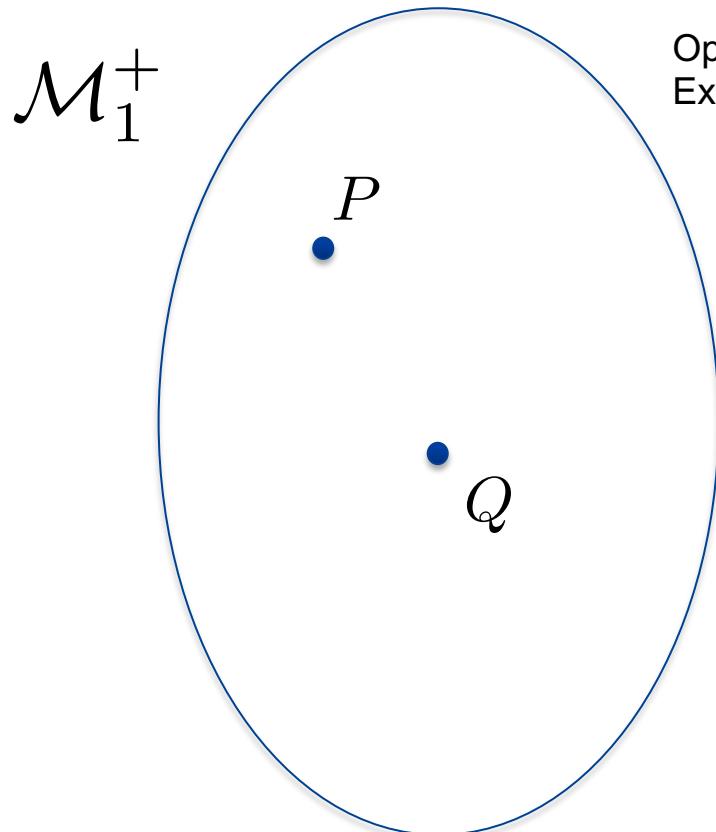
- QMC such as Sobol' or Halton sequences
- Optimized designs based on
  - ◆ Geometrical properties: minimax, maximin, maximum projection
  - ◆ **Discrepancy measures:** distance of the DOE to the uniform distribution in the hypercube

## Generalization of standard discrepancies with kernels

- The main idea is to change the distance between the empirical distribution of the DOE and the target uniform distribution
- This distance between probability distributions relies on kernel embeddings of distributions



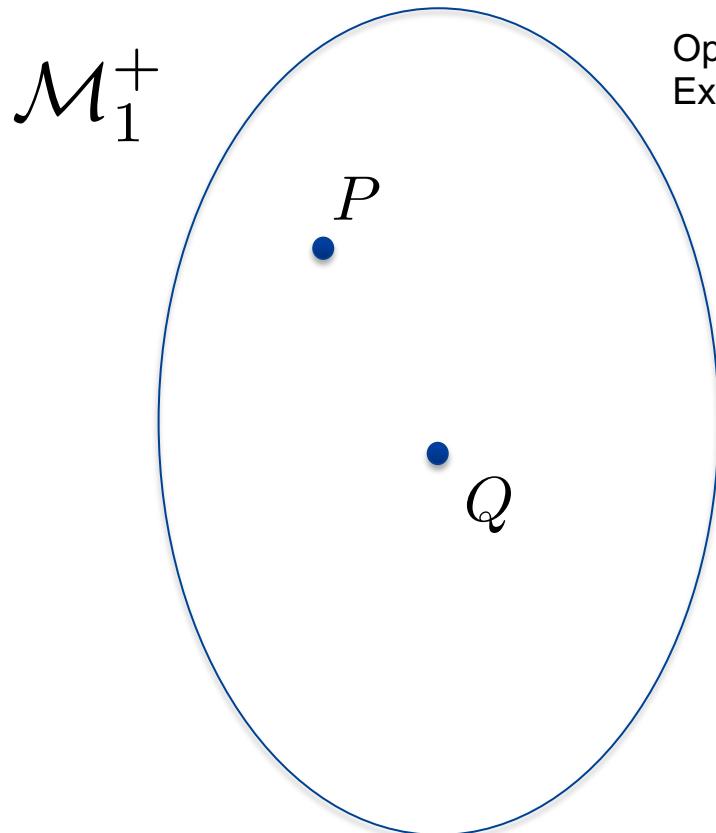
## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions



Option 1: work directly in the space of probability measures  
Examples: KS, TV, KL, Hellinger, ...



## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions

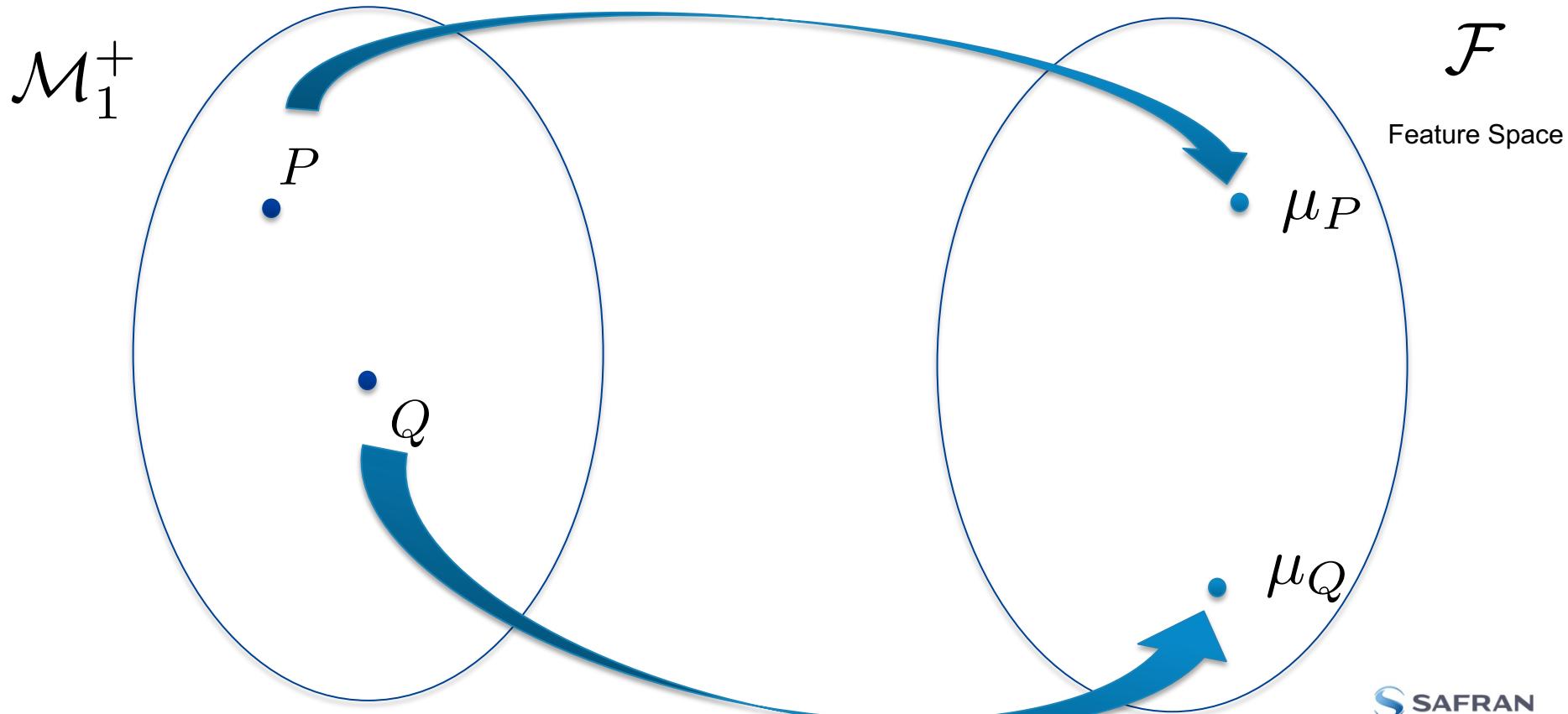


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**Option 2: represent probability measures with some features**

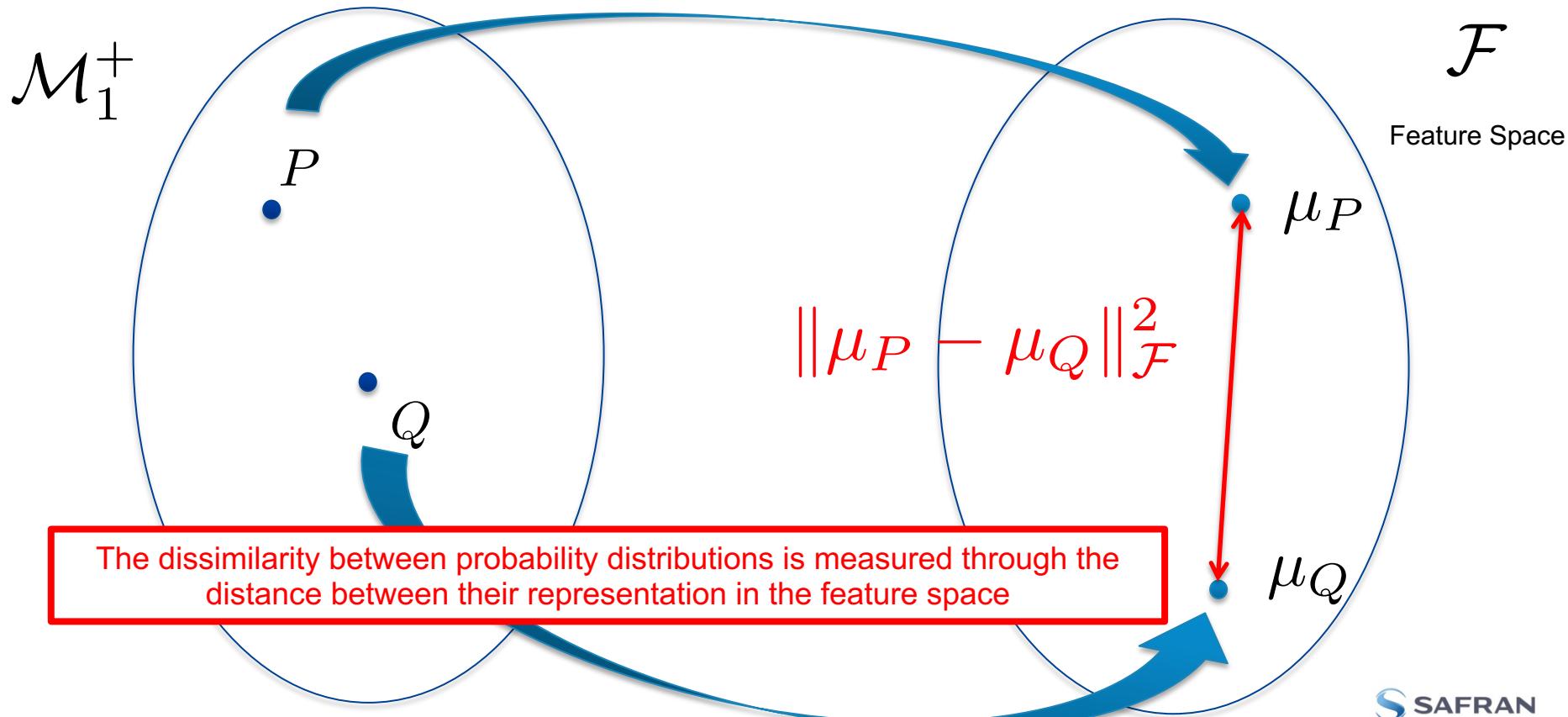


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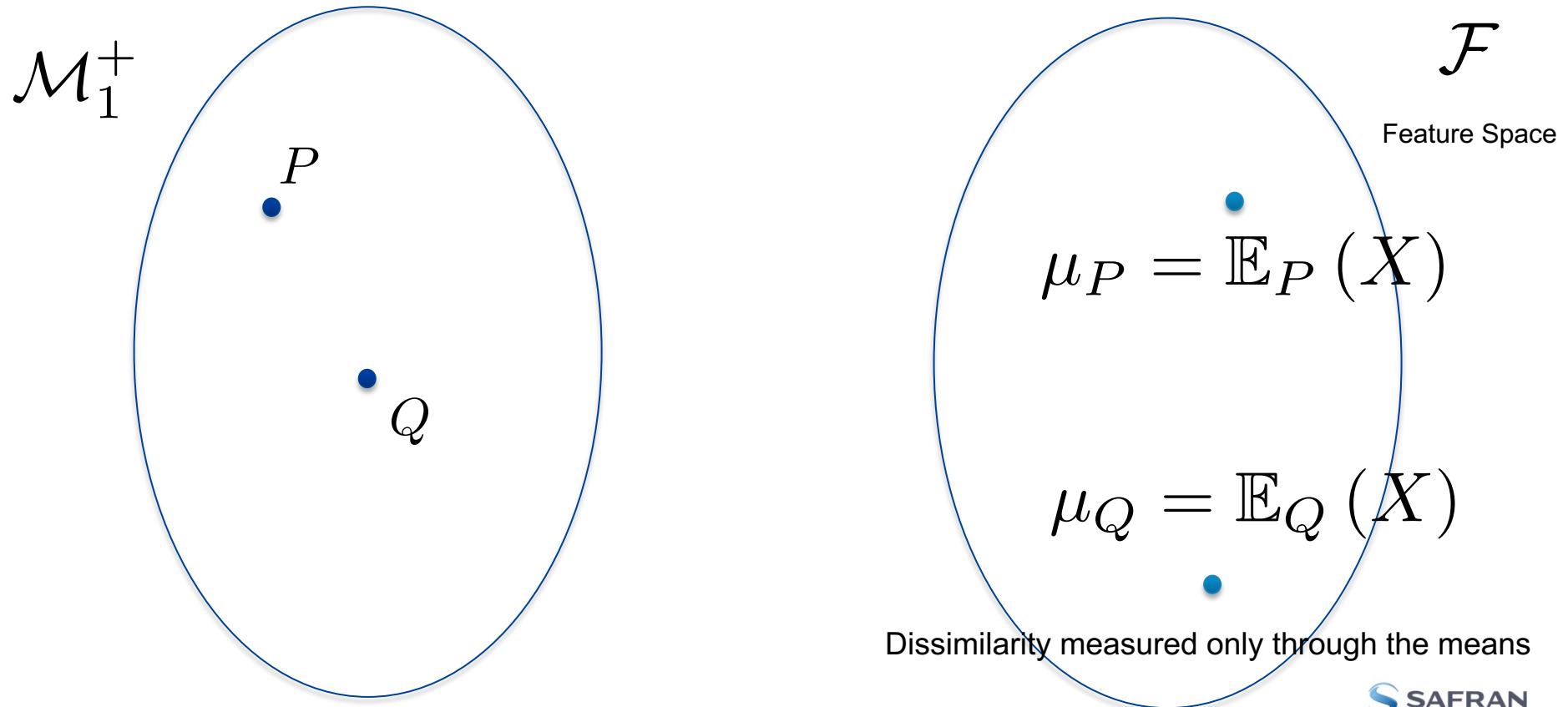


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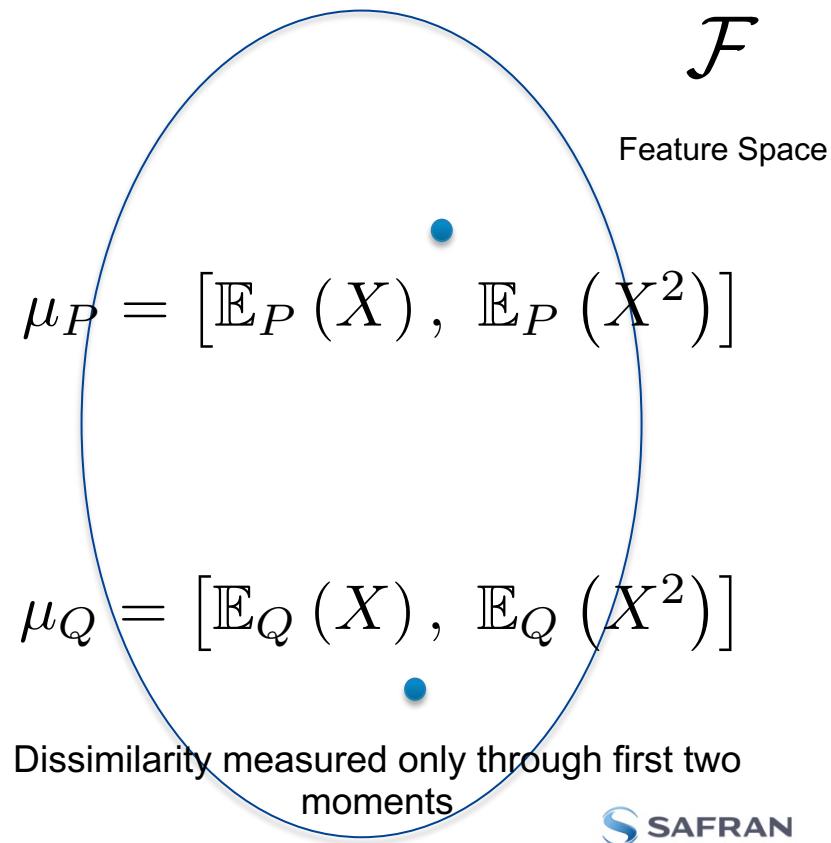
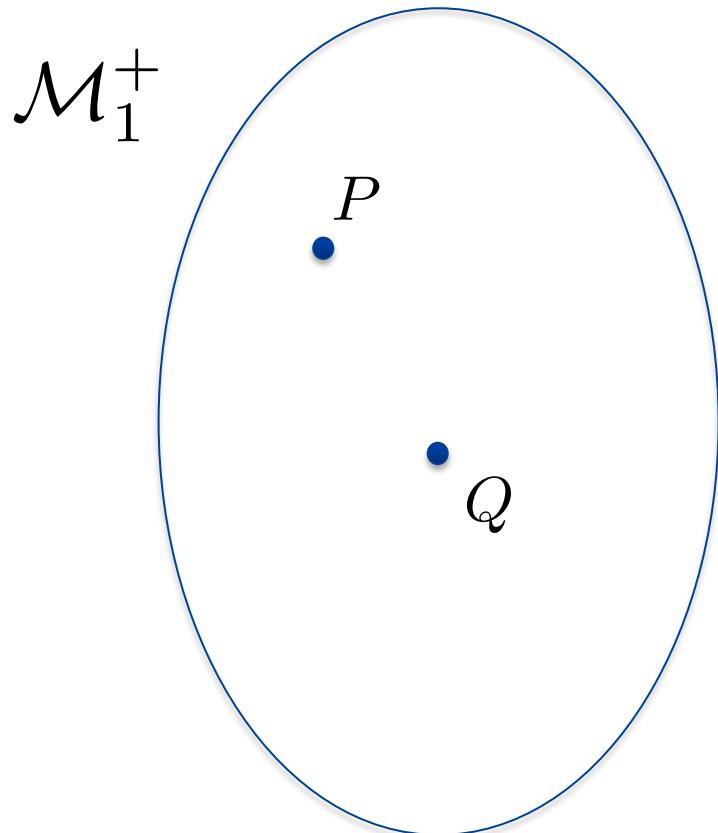


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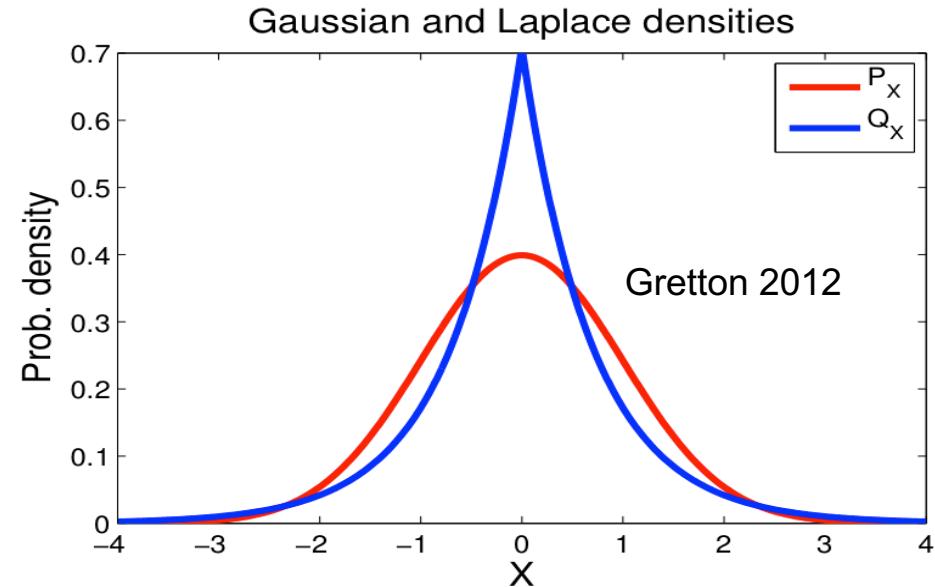
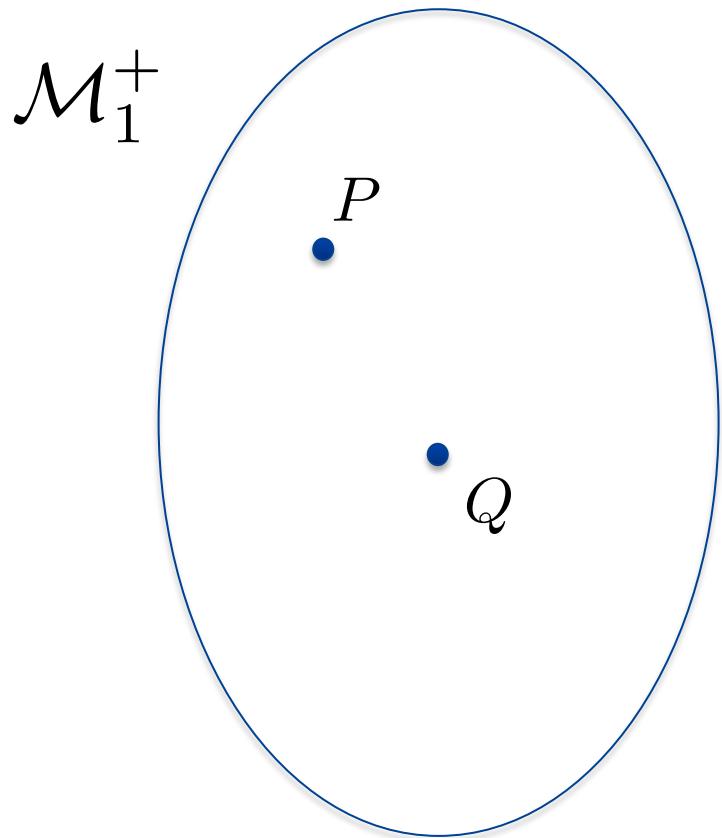


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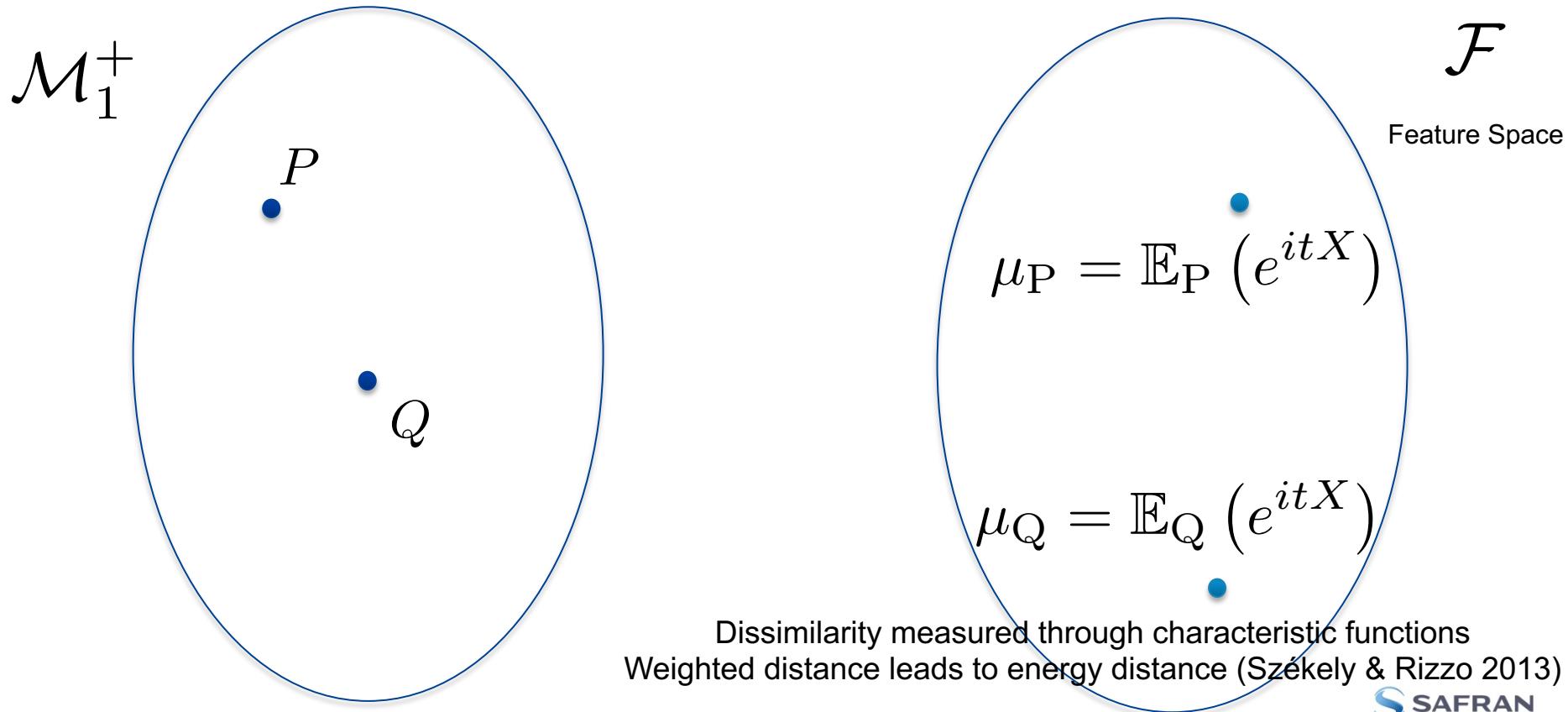
## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions



Obviously using a finite number of features will not lead to a distance between probability distributions

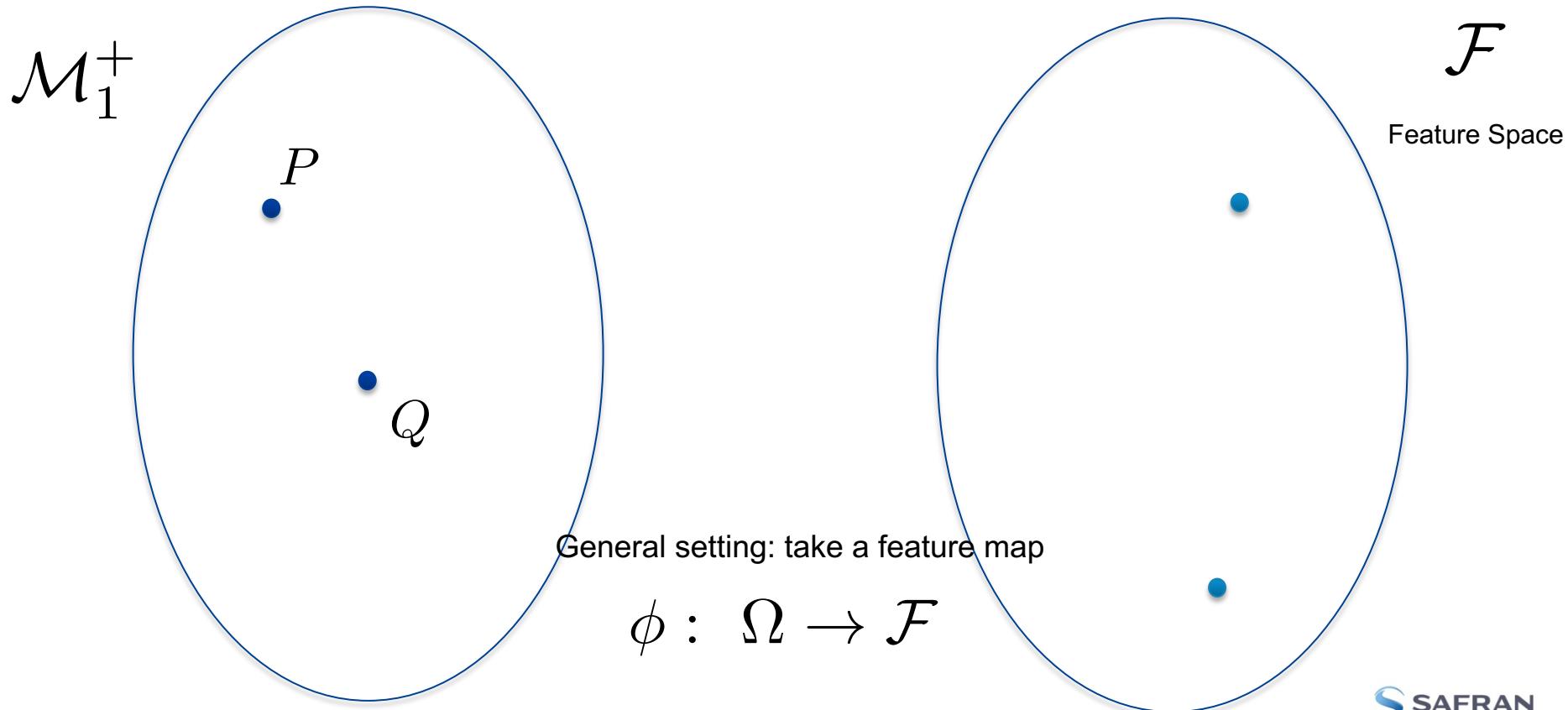


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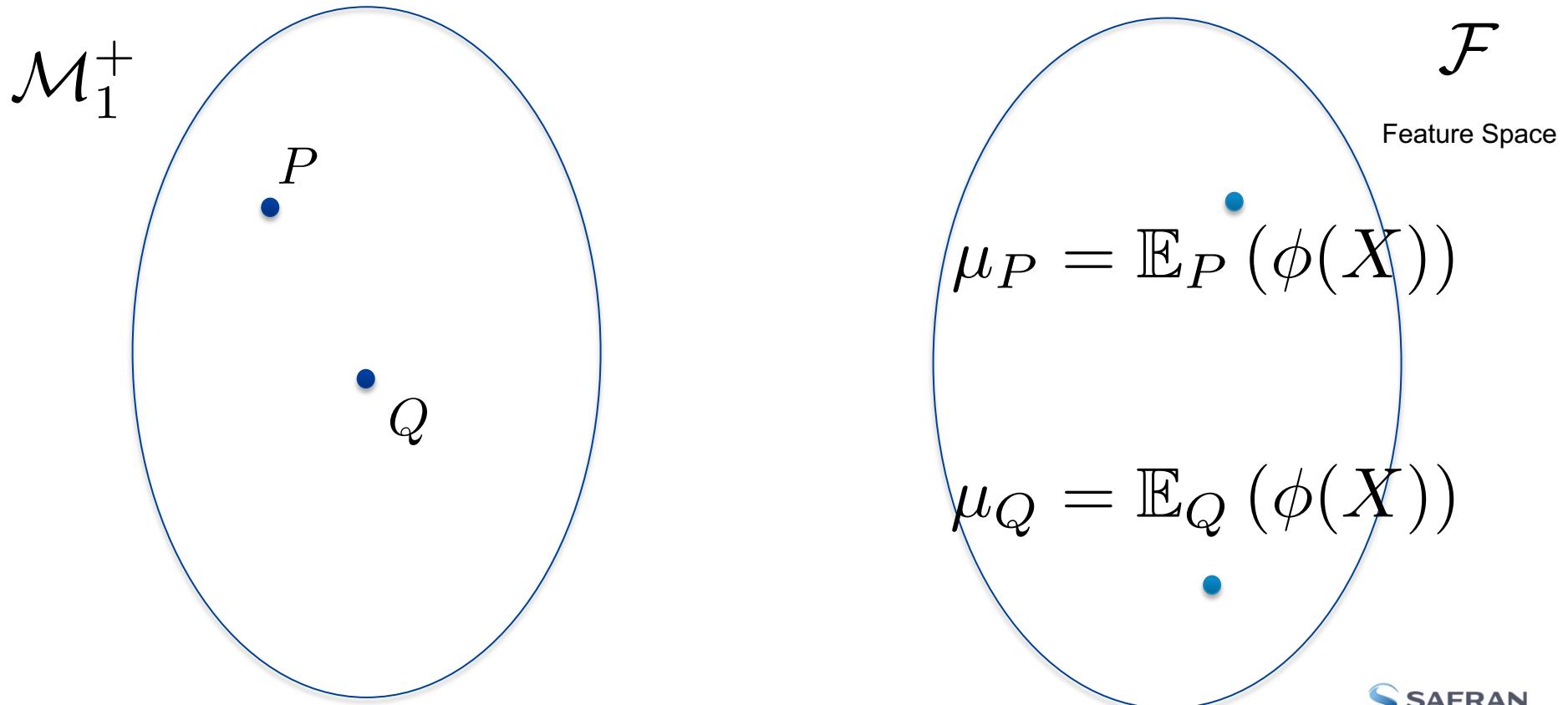


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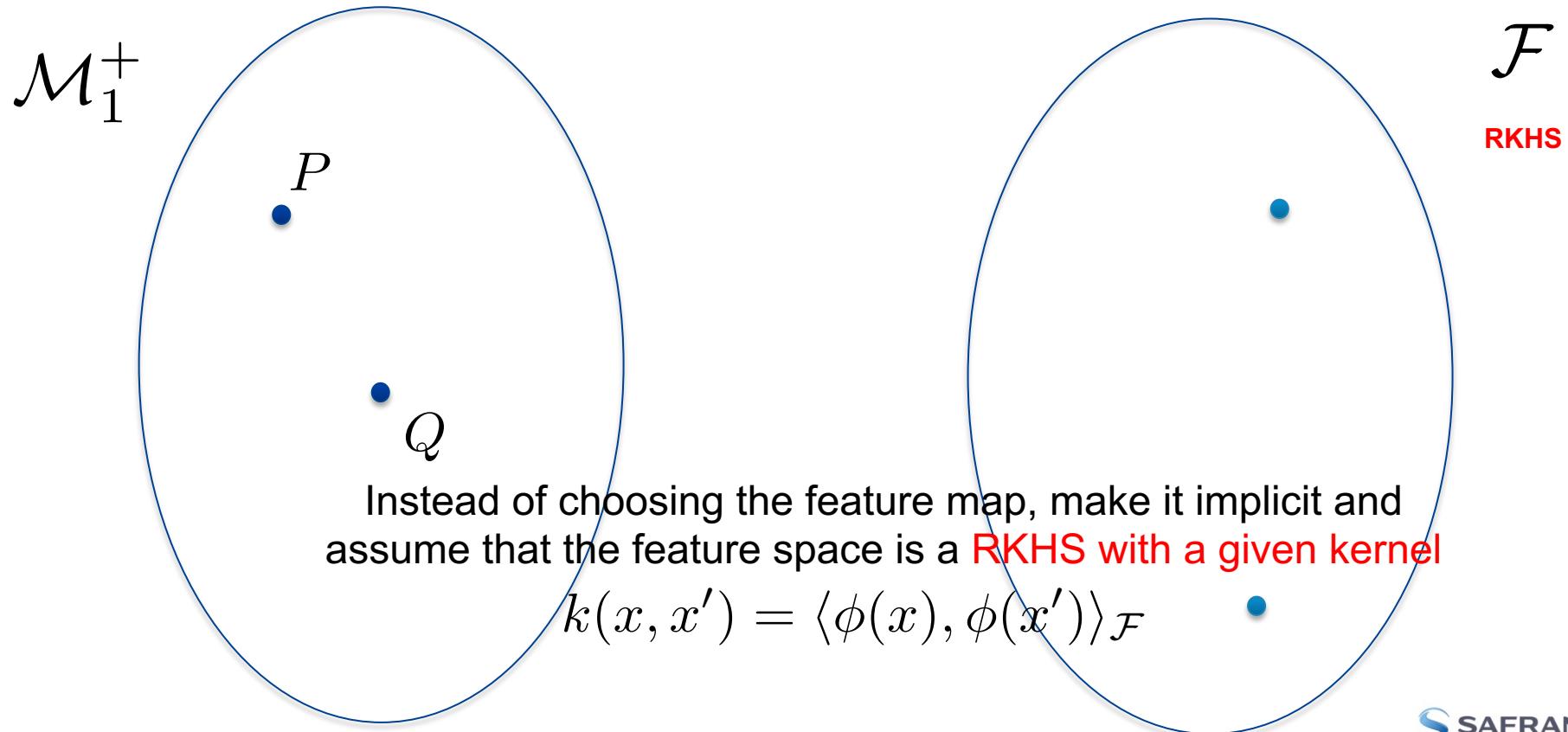


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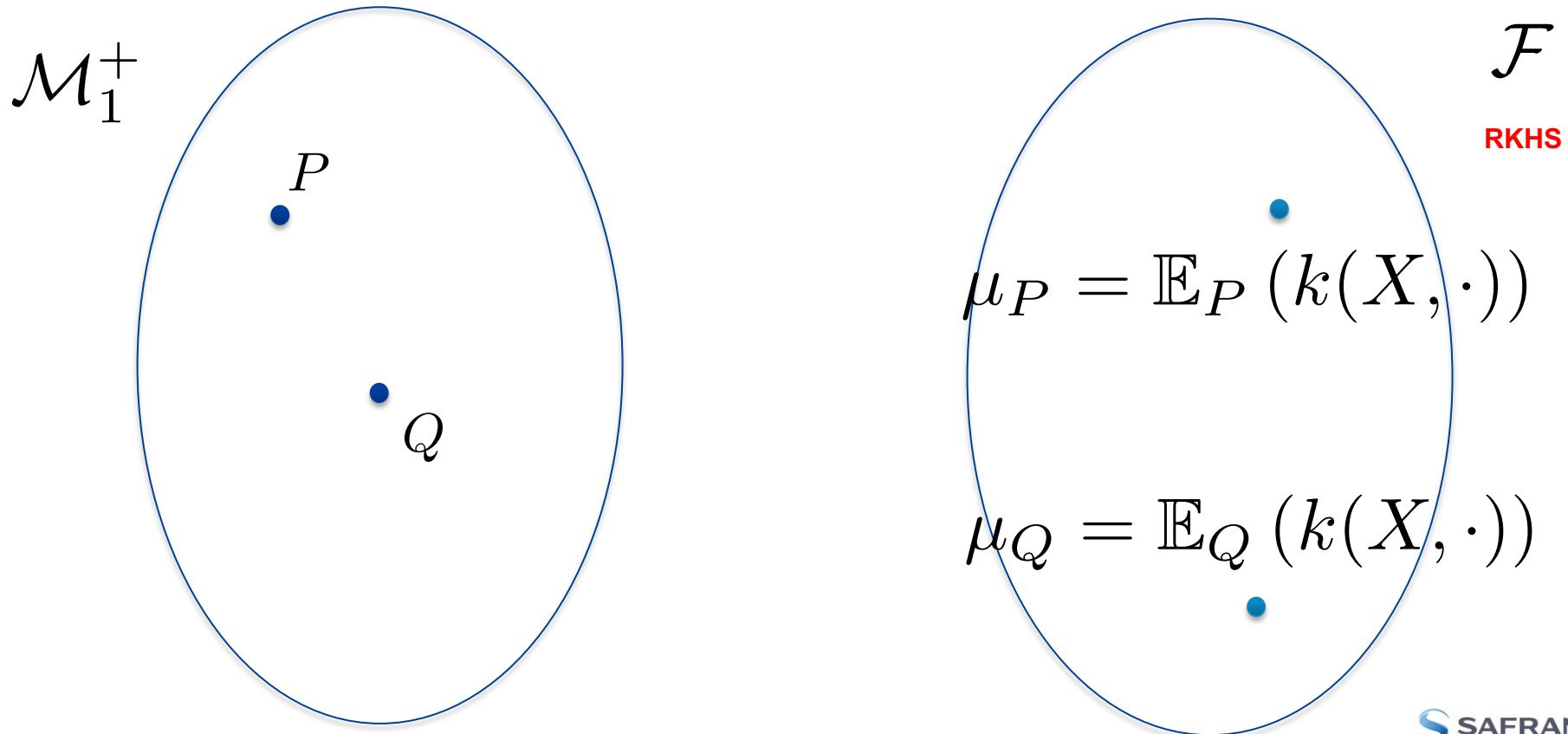


## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions





## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions



## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions

The kernel mean embedding of a probability measure is defined as

$$\mu_P = \mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim P} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \cdot) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \cdot) dP(\xi)$$

A distance between probability measures is then given by the Maximum Mean Discrepancy

$$\text{MMD}(P_1, P_2) = \|\mu_{P_1} - \mu_{P_2}\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

The reproducing property in the RKHS gives the central result

$$\text{MMD}^2(P_1, P_2) = \mathbb{E}_{\xi, \xi'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \xi') - 2\mathbb{E}_{\xi, \zeta} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \zeta) + \mathbb{E}_{\zeta, \zeta'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\zeta, \zeta')$$

Smola et al. 2007, Song 2008, Song et al. 2009





## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions

Other major use: testing independence of random vectors

$$\text{MMD}^2(P_{UV}, P_U \otimes P_V) = \|\mu_{P_{UV}} - \mu_{P_U} \otimes \mu_{P_V}\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HSIC}(U, V) &= \text{MMD}^2(P_{UV}, P_U \otimes P_V) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{U,U',V,V'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(U, U') k_{\mathcal{Y}}(V, V') \\ &+ \mathbb{E}_{U,U'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(U, U') \mathbb{E}_{V,V'} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(V, V') \\ &- 2\mathbb{E}_{U,V} [\mathbb{E}_{U'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(U, U') \mathbb{E}_{V'} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(V, V')] \end{aligned}$$

Gretton et al. 2005a,b

Many applications: goodness-of-fit, independence tests, feature selection, ...

# Design of experiments for computer simulations

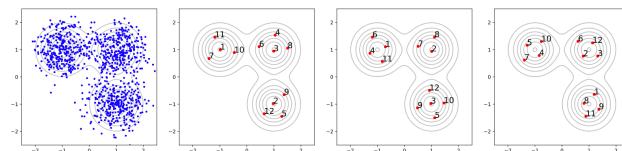
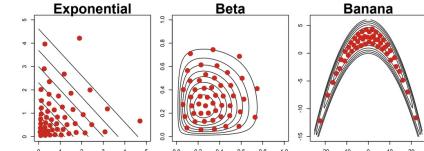
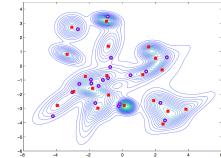
## Now that we have access to the MMD

1. With the uniform target, specific choices of kernels give a MMD strictly equivalent to some well-known discrepancies (Hickernell 98) → **this is really a generalization**
2. We can propose an optimization algorithm which finds an empirical distribution (the DOE) which has the smallest distance with a target distribution (the uniform one in classical computer experiments)

# Design of experiments for computer simulations

## Now that we have access to the MMD

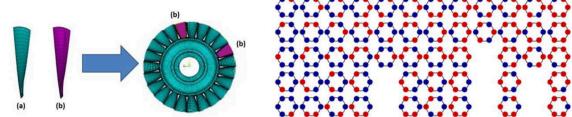
1. With the uniform target, specific choices of kernels give a MMD strictly equivalent to some well-known discrepancies (Hickernell 98) → **this is really a generalization**
2. We can propose an optimization algorithm which finds an empirical distribution (the DOE) which has the smallest distance with a target distribution (the uniform one in classical computer experiments)
3. Several variants for optimization in the general case
  - ◆ Greedy optimization (Pronzato 2022), with particular case *kernel herding* (Chen et al. 2010)
  - ◆ Convex-concave trick for specific kernel (*energy distance*), *support points* (Mak & Joseph 2018)
  - ◆ Integer Quadratic Programming for discrete target (Teymur et al. 2021)



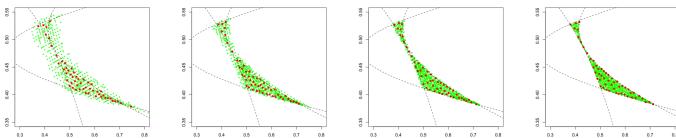
# Design of experiments for computer simulations

## Current hot topics using the MMD in computer experiments

- Handling categorical inputs and physical invariances in the kernel (Tran et al. 2021)



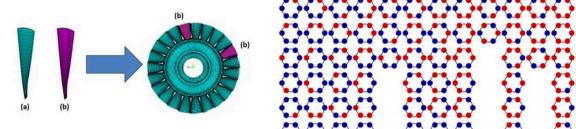
- Handling physical constraints in the input domain (Huang et al. 2021)



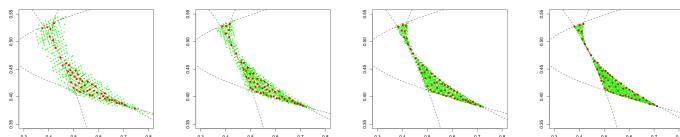
# Design of experiments for computer simulations

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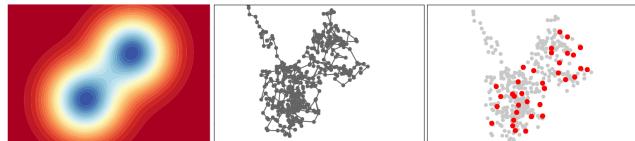


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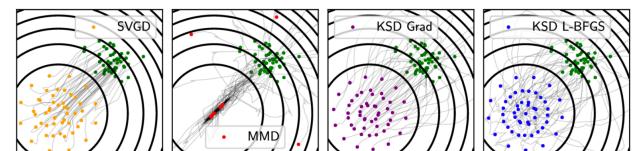


➤ If the target is known just up to a multiplicative constant: use of the Stein kernel, leading to the **Kernel Stein Discrepancy** (KSD) instead of the MMD

- ❖ Greedy optimization → Stein thinning (Riabiz et al. 2022)



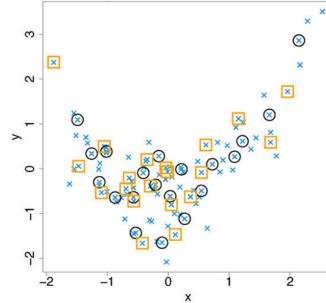
- ❖ Gradient descent (Korba et al. 2021)



# Design of experiments for computer simulations

## Current hot topics using the MMD in computer experiments

- Handling categorical inputs and physical invariances in the kernel (Tran et al. 2021)
- Handling physical constraints in the input domain (Huang et al. 2021)
- If the target is known just up to a multiplicative constant: use of the Stein kernel, leading to the **Kernel Stein Discrepancy** (KSD) instead of the MMD
- Use of the MMD to select train / validation / test set from given database
  - ◆ Data splitting (Joseph & Vakayil 2022)
  - ◆ Upcoming J. Muré's talk in this session!



# 3

## SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

# Sensitivity analysis

**Goal :** identify and rank the input parameters according to their impact on the output of a computer code

## Why ?

- > Reduce the output uncertainty efficiently by reducing the uncertainty of the main contributors
- > Improve the knowledge of the physical phenomenon,
- > Simplify the model

## Notations

$$Y = \eta(X_1, \dots, X_d)$$

Computer code

Output                      Input parameters

## Sensitivity analysis: Sobol' indices arise from a functional ANOVA decomposition

**Theorem 1** (ANOVA decomposition (Hoeffding, 1948; Antoniadis, 1984)). Assume that  $\eta : \mathcal{X}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{X}_d \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  is a square integrable function of  $d$  independent random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_d$ . Then  $\eta$  admits a decomposition

$$Y = \eta(X_1, \dots, X_d) = \sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} \eta_A(\mathbf{X}_A),$$

with  $\eta_A$  depending only on the variables  $\mathbf{X}_A$  and satisfying

- (a)  $\eta_\emptyset = \mathbb{E}(Y)$ ,
- (b)  $\mathbb{E}_{X_l}(\eta_A(\mathbf{X}_A)) = 0$  if  $l \in A$ ,
- (c)  $\eta_A(\mathbf{X}_A) = \sum_{B \subset A} (-1)^{|A|-|B|} \mathbb{E}(Y|\mathbf{X}_B)$ .

Furthermore, (b) implies that all the terms  $\eta_A$  in the decomposition are mutually orthogonal. As a consequence, the output variance can be decomposed as

$$\text{Var } Y = \sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} \text{Var } \eta_A(\mathbf{X}_A) = \sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} V_A \quad (1)$$

where

$$V_A = \sum_{B \subset A} (-1)^{|A|-|B|} \text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|\mathbf{X}_B). \quad (2)$$

# Sensitivity analysis: Sobol' indices arise from a functional ANOVA decomposition

**Definition 1** (Sobol' indices (Sobol', 1993)). Under the same assumptions of Theorem 1, the Sobol' sensitivity index associated to a subset  $A$  of input variables is defined as

$$S_A = \frac{V_A}{\text{Var } Y}, \quad (3) \quad \text{A is a subset of input variables}$$

while the total Sobol' index associated to  $A$  is

$$S_A^T = \sum_{B \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d, B \cap A \neq \emptyset} S_B. \quad (4)$$

In particular, the first-order Sobol' index of an input  $X_l$  writes

$$S_l = \frac{\text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|X_l)}{\text{Var } Y}$$

Impact of an input alone

and its total Sobol' index is given by

$$S_l^T = \sum_{B \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d, l \in B} S_B = 1 - \frac{\text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|\mathbf{X}_{-l})}{\text{Var } Y}.$$

Impact of an input through all its potential interactions with others

Finally, the ANOVA decomposition (1) readily provides an interpretation of Sobol' indices as a percentage of explained output variance, i.e.

$$\sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} S_A = 1. \quad (5)$$

Interpretation as percentage



# Sensitivity analysis: Sobol' indices

## Sobol' indices

- > The impact of each input can be quantitatively assessed
  - ◆ First-order effect
  - ◆ Total effect including also all possible interactions with other inputs
  - ◆ **Pure interactions can be properly defined**

$$S_{ll'} = \frac{\text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|X_l, X_{l'}) - \text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|X_l) - \text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|X_{l'})}{\text{Var } Y} = \frac{\text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|X_l, X_{l'})}{\text{Var } Y} - S_l - S_{l'}$$

**First-order effects can  
be properly  
subtracted**

# Sensitivity analysis: Sobol' indices

## Sobol' indices

- > The impact of each input can be quantitatively assessed
  - ◆ First-order effect
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First-order effects can  
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## Limitations

- > Assumption of independent inputs (more on this later)
- > Impact on output variance only
- > Outputs may not be scalars

# Sensitivity analysis: other indices

## Going beyond the variance 1: goal-oriented sensitivity analysis

- > Indices based on contrast functions (Fort et al. 2014), in particular quantile-oriented indices
- > Reliability-based indices
- > Many industrial applications

## Going beyond the variance 2: moment-independent indices

- > Principle: Quantify the impact of an input parameter on the **probability distribution of the output**

$$\mathcal{S}_l^{TV} = \int |p_Y(y) - p_{Y|X_l=x}(y)| p_{X_l}(x) dx dy$$

Borgonovo 2007

$$\mathcal{S}_l^{KL} = \int p_{Y|X_l=x}(y) \ln \left( \frac{p_{Y|X_l=x}(y)}{p_Y(y)} \right) p_{X_l}(x) dx dy$$

Kraskov et al. 2001



# Sensitivity analysis: general point of view

## General framework for moment-independent indices

$$\mathcal{S}_l = \mathbb{E}_{X_l} \left( d(P_Y, P_{Y|X_l}) \right)$$

Baucells & Borgonovo 2013  
D. 2015

- If the output probability distribution and the conditional one are « close », the input parameter has little influence
- Example: f-divergence (D. 2015, Rahman 2016), with particular cases TV & KL

# Sensitivity analysis – Moment-independent indices

## Pros

- > They account for the whole effect of a parameter on the output distribution
- > They are density-based
  - ◆ Many methods and packages for estimation
  - ◆ Several distances can be investigated without additional cost

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## Cons

- > Definition of higher-order indices means curse of dimensionality for density estimation
- > No ANOVA-like decomposition
  - ◆ No access to a « natural » normalisation constant
  - ◆ No proper separation of interactions and main effects

Does this make sense ?

$$\mathcal{S}_{ll'}^{TV} = \int |p_Y(y)p_{X_l}(x)p_{X_{l'}}(x') - p_{X_l, X_{l'}, Y}(x, x', y)| dx dx' dy - \mathcal{S}_l^{TV} - \mathcal{S}_{l'}^{TV}$$

# Sensitivity analysis – Moment-independent indices

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- > They account for the whole effect of a parameter on the output distribution
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## A promising candidate: kernel-embedding of probability distributions

$$\mathcal{S}_l = \mathbb{E}_{X_l} (d(P_Y, P_{Y|X_l}))$$

## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions

The kernel mean embedding of a probability measure is defined as

$$\mu_P = \mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim P} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \cdot) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \cdot) dP(\xi)$$

A distance between probability measures is then given by the Maximum Mean Discrepancy

$$\text{MMD}(P_1, P_2) = \|\mu_{P_1} - \mu_{P_2}\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

The reproducing property in the RKHS gives the central result

$$\text{MMD}^2(P_1, P_2) = \mathbb{E}_{\xi, \xi'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \xi') - 2\mathbb{E}_{\xi, \zeta} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\xi, \zeta) + \mathbb{E}_{\zeta, \zeta'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(\zeta, \zeta')$$

Smola et al. 2007, Song 2008, Song et al. 2009





## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions

Other major use: testing independence of random vectors

$$\text{MMD}^2(P_{UV}, P_U \otimes P_V) = \|\mu_{P_{UV}} - \mu_{P_U} \otimes \mu_{P_V}\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HSIC}(U, V) &= \text{MMD}^2(P_{UV}, P_U \otimes P_V) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{U,U',V,V'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(U, U') k_{\mathcal{Y}}(V, V') \\ &+ \mathbb{E}_{U,U'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(U, U') \mathbb{E}_{V,V'} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(V, V') \\ &- 2 \mathbb{E}_{U,V} [\mathbb{E}_{U'} k_{\mathcal{X}}(U, U') \mathbb{E}_{V'} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(V, V')] \end{aligned}$$

Gretton et al. 2005a,b

Many applications: goodness-of-fit, independence tests, feature selection, ...

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions

## Pros

- > Thanks to the RKHS, only involves expectations of kernels
- > Less prone to the curse of dimensionality
- > **Can easily handle structured objects (curves, images, graphs, probability measures, ...) by using specific kernels tailored at such tasks**

## Cons

- > Choice of kernel / kernel hyperparameters ...

## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

Remember our general GSA setting ?

$$\mathcal{S}_l = \mathbb{E}_{X_l} (d(\mathbf{P}_Y, \mathbf{P}_{Y|X_l}))$$

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

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Straightforward use of kernel-embeddings

First-order

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_l^{\text{MMD}} &= \mathbb{E}_{X_l} \text{MMD}^2(P_Y, P_{Y|X_l}) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{X_l} \mathbb{E}_{\xi, \xi' \sim P_Y} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\xi, \xi') - 2\mathbb{E}_{X_l} \mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim P_Y, \zeta \sim P_{Y|X_l}} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\xi, \zeta) + \mathbb{E}_{X_l} \mathbb{E}_{\zeta, \zeta' \sim P_{Y|X_l}} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\zeta, \zeta') \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{X_l} \mathbb{E}_{\zeta, \zeta' \sim P_{Y|X_l}} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\zeta, \zeta') - \mathbb{E}_{\xi, \xi' \sim P_Y} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\xi, \xi')\end{aligned}$$

D. 2016 & 2021, Barr & Rabitz 2022



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Group

$$\mathcal{S}_A^{\text{MMD}} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} (\text{MMD}^2(P_Y, P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_A})) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} \mathbb{E}_{\zeta, \zeta' \sim P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_A}} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\zeta, \zeta') - \mathbb{E}_{\xi, \xi' \sim P_Y} k_{\mathcal{Y}}(\xi, \xi')$$

D. 2016 & 2021, Barr & Rabitz 2022



## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

Links with Sobol': if we use the vanilla dot product kernel  $k_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y') = yy'$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_A^{\text{MMD}} &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} \left( \mathbb{E}_{\xi \sim P_Y}(\xi) - \mathbb{E}_{\zeta \sim P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_A}}(\zeta) \right)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} (\mathbb{E}Y - \mathbb{E}(Y|\mathbf{X}_A))^2 \\ &= \text{Var } \mathbb{E}(Y|\mathbf{X}_A) \quad \text{Unnormalized Sobol'}$$

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**Links with Sobol': if Mercer's theorem holds**

$$k_{\mathcal{Y}}(y, y') = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \phi_r(y)\phi_r(y') \rightarrow \begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_A^{\text{MMD}} &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} \mathbb{E}_{\xi, \xi' \sim P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_A}} (\phi_r(\xi)\phi_r(\xi')) - \mathbb{E}_{\zeta, \zeta' \sim P} (\phi_r(\zeta)\phi_r(\zeta')) \right\} \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} \mathbb{E} (\phi_r(Y)|\mathbf{X}_A)^2 - \mathbb{E} (\phi_r(Y))^2 \right\} \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \text{Var } \mathbb{E} (\phi_r(Y)|\mathbf{X}_A).\end{aligned}$$

➤ Aggregation of Sobol' indices on a (possibly) infinite number of nonlinear transformations of the output

## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

More importantly, we have an ANOVA-like decomposition !

**Theorem 3** (ANOVA decomposition for MMD). *Under the same assumptions of Theorem 1 (in particular, the random vector  $\mathbf{X}$  has independent components) and with Assumption 1, denote  $\text{MMD}_{\text{tot}}^2 = \mathbb{E}k_{\mathcal{Y}}(Y, Y) - \mathbb{E}k_{\mathcal{Y}}(Y, Y')$  where  $Y'$  is an independent copy of  $Y$ . Then the total MMD can be decomposed as*

$$\text{MMD}_{\text{tot}}^2 = \sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} \text{MMD}_A^2$$

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where each term is given by

$$\text{MMD}_A^2 = \sum_{B \subset A} (-1)^{|A|-|B|} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_B} (\text{MMD}^2(P_Y, P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_B})) .$$

- > So we can define properly normalized MMD-based sensitivity indices
- > Proof is straightforward with Mercer's theorem

## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

More importantly, we have an ANOVA-like decomposition !

**Definition 2** (MMD-based sensitivity indices). *In the frame of Theorem 3, let  $A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d$ . The normalized MMD-based sensitivity index associated to a subset  $A$  of input variables is defined as*

$$S_A^{\text{MMD}} = \frac{\text{MMD}_A^2}{\text{MMD}_{\text{tot}}^2},$$

Impact of a subset alone

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Impact of a subset alone

while the total MMD-based index associated to  $A$  is

$$S_A^{T,\text{MMD}} = \sum_{B \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d, B \cap A \neq \emptyset} S_B^{\text{MMD}} = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}_{-A}} (\text{MMD}^2(P_Y, P_{Y|\mathbf{x}_{-A}}))}{\text{MMD}_{\text{tot}}^2}.$$

Impact of a subset through all its potential interactions with others

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Impact of a subset through all its potential interactions with others

From Theorem 3, we have the fundamental identity providing the interpretation of MMD-based indices as percentage of the explained generalized variance  $\text{MMD}_{\text{tot}}^2$ :

$$\sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} S_A^{\text{MMD}} = 1.$$

Interpretation as percentage

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

## New MMD-based sensitivity index

- > First moment-independent index with a decomposition
- > Can handle easily structured outputs
- > Close generalization of Sobol' index, which is obtained as a particular case

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: MMD

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## Estimation

- > We can easily recycle estimators proposed for Sobol' indices
- > Monte-Carlo, Pick-freeze, Rank, k-NN
- > See D. 2021 for details

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- > See D. 2021 for details

## Going further by taking a step back

## Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA

Remember our general GSA setting ?

$$\mathcal{S}_l = \mathbb{E}_{X_l} \left( d(\mathbf{P}_Y, \mathbf{P}_{Y|X_l}) \right)$$

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA

Remember our general GSA setting ?

$$\mathcal{S}_l = \mathbb{E}_{X_l} (d(\mathbf{P}_Y, \mathbf{P}_{Y|X_l}))$$

Other point of view

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_l^{KL} &= \int p_{Y|X_l=x}(y) \ln \left( \frac{p_{Y|X_l=x}(y)}{p_Y(y)} \right) p_{X_l}(x) dx dy \\ &= \int \ln \left( \frac{p_{Y,X_l}(y, x)}{p_Y(y)p_{X_l}(x)} \right) p_{Y,X_l}(y, x) dx dy \\ &= \text{MI}(X_l, Y)\end{aligned}$$

- > The KL-based index actually corresponds to the mutual information between one of the inputs and the output, i.e. a measure of their dependence

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA

Remember our general GSA setting ?

$$\mathcal{S}_l = \mathbb{E}_{X_l} (d(P_Y, P_{Y|X_l}))$$

Other point of view

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_l^{KL} &= \int p_{Y|X_l=x}(y) \ln \left( \frac{p_{Y|X_l=x}(y)}{p_{Y|x}(y)} \right) dx dy \\ &= \int \ln \left( \frac{p_{Y|X_l=x}(y, x)}{p_{Y|x}(y, x)} \right) dx dy\end{aligned}$$

Why not use HSIC instead?

- > The KL-based measure corresponds to the mutual information between one of the inputs and the output, i.e. a measure of the dependence

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

## HSIC-based sensitivity index

$$\mathcal{S}_A^{HS} = \text{HSIC}(\mathbf{X}_A, Y)$$

- Already proposed with a hand-made normalization in D. 2015
- Works very well for screening, with small sample size

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## But it actually exhibits an ANOVA decomposition too

**Assumption 3.** *The reproducing kernel  $k_{\mathcal{X}}$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  is of the form*

$$k_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \prod_{l=1}^p (1 + k_l(x_l, x'_l)) \quad (10)$$

where for each  $l = 1, \dots, d$ ,  $k_l(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the reproducing kernel of a RKHS  $\mathcal{F}_l$  of real functions depending only on variable  $x_l$  and such that  $1 \notin \mathcal{F}_l$ .

In addition, for all  $l = 1, \dots, d$  and  $\forall x_l \in \mathcal{X}_l$ , we have

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}_l} k_l(x_l, x'_l) dP_{X_l}(x'_l) = 0. \quad (11)$$

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Needed to get orthogonality inside the RKHS

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## ANOVA-like decomposition for HSIC

**Theorem 4** (ANOVA decomposition for HSIC). *Under the same assumptions of Theorem 1 (in particular, the random vector  $\mathbf{X}$  has independent components) and with Assumptions 2 and 3, the HSIC dependence measure between  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$  and  $Y$  can be decomposed as*

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where each term is given by

$$\text{HSIC}_A = \sum_{B \subset A} (-1)^{|A|-|B|} \text{HSIC}(\mathbf{X}_B, Y)$$

and  $\text{HSIC}(\mathbf{X}_B, Y)$  is defined with a product RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_B = \mathcal{F}_B \times \mathcal{G}$  with kernel  $k_B(\mathbf{x}_B, \mathbf{x}'_B)k_Y(y, y') = \prod_{l \in B} (1 + k_l(x_l, x'_l))k_Y(y, y')$  as in (10).

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- > Proof relies on orthogonal decompositions in RKHS (see Appendix)

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

## ANOVA-like decomposition for HSIC

**Definition 3** (HSIC-based sensitivity indices). *In the frame of Theorem 4, let  $A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d$ . The normalized HSIC-based sensitivity index associated to a subset  $A$  of input variables is defined as*

$$S_A^{\text{HSIC}} = \frac{\text{HSIC}_A}{\text{HSIC}(\mathbf{X}, Y)},$$

Impact of a subset alone

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Impact of a subset through all its potential interactions with others

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Impact of a subset through all its potential interactions with others

From Theorem 4, we have the fundamental identity providing the interpretation of HSIC-based indices as percentage of the explained HSIC dependence measure between  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_d)$  and  $Y$ :

$$\sum_{A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d} S_A^{\text{HSIC}} = 1.$$

Interpretation as percentage

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

## New HSIC-based sensitivity index

- > Also a decomposition
- > Can handle easily structured outputs

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

## New HSIC-based sensitivity index

- > Also a decomposition
- > Can handle easily structured outputs
- > Generalization of MMD-based index!

Kernel more or  
less converging  
to a dirac

**Proposition 2.** For all subset  $A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d$ , let us define a product RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_A = \mathcal{F}_A \times \mathcal{G}$  with kernel  $k_A(\mathbf{x}_A, \mathbf{x}'_A)k_Y(y, y')$ . We further assume that  $\forall \mathbf{x}_A \in \mathcal{X}_A$ ,  $p_{\mathbf{X}_A}(\mathbf{x}_A) > 0$  and that

$$k_A(\mathbf{x}_A, \mathbf{x}'_A) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p_{\mathbf{X}_A}(\mathbf{x}_A)} \sqrt{p_{\mathbf{X}_A}(\mathbf{x}'_A)}} \prod_{l \in A} \frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x_l - x'_l}{h}\right) \quad (13)$$

where  $K : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a symmetric kernel function satisfying  $\int_u K(u)du = 1$ , and  $h > 0$ .

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where  $K : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a symmetric kernel function satisfying  $\int_u K(u)du = 1$ , and  $h > 0$ . Then we have  $\forall A \subseteq \mathcal{P}_d$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \text{HSIC}(\mathbf{X}_A, Y) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}_A} (\text{MMD}^2(P_Y, P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_A}))$$

where  $\text{HSIC}(\mathbf{X}_A, Y)$  is defined with the product RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_A = \mathcal{F}_A \times \mathcal{G}$  and  $\text{MMD}^2(P_Y, P_{Y|\mathbf{X}_A})$  with the RKHS  $\mathcal{G}$ .

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

## New HSIC-based sensitivity index

- > Also a decomposition
- > Can handle easily structured outputs
- > Generalization of MMD-based index !

## Estimation

- > Very easy, U-stat or V-stat, see Song et al. (2007); Gretton et al. (2008)

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

**Wait a minute!**

In addition, for all  $l = 1, \dots, d$  and  $\forall x_l \in \mathcal{X}_l$ , we have

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}_l} k_l(x_l, x'_l) dP_{X_l}(x'_l) = 0.$$

**Zero-mean kernel**

(11)

> How do we build a kernel satisfying this?

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}_l} k_l(x_l, x'_l) dP_{X_l}(x'_l) = 0.$$

## Easy case: inputs are uniform on [0,1]

- > We can directly use famous Sobolev kernels (from SS-ANOVA, COSSO, ACOSSO, ...)

$$k_l(x_l, x'_l) = \frac{B_{2r}(|x_l - x'_l|)}{(-1)^{r+1}(2r)!} + \sum_{j=1}^r \frac{B_j(x_l)B_j(x'_l)}{(j!)^2}$$

where B are Bernoulli polynomials.

- > Always possible to transform independent inputs to end up with this case (via probability integral transform)
- > But sensitivity index is not invariant via nonlinear transformations
- > See G. Sarazin's talk on Wednesday (session 6A)

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}_l} k_l(x_l, x'_l) dP_{X_l}(x'_l) = 0.$$

## General case 1

- > Kernels built by Durrande et al. (2012) in the context of GP models with ANOVA decomposition inside

$$k_0^D(x, x') = k(x, x') - \frac{\int k(x, t) dP(t) \int k(x', t) dP(t)}{\iint k(s, t) dP(s) dP(t)}$$

- > Built from any initial kernel  $k$
- > Very nice theory, but needs numerical integration to compute the second term in general

# Kernel-embedding of probability distributions for GSA: HSIC

$$\int_{\mathcal{X}_l} k_l(x_l, x'_l) dP_{X_l}(x'_l) = 0.$$

## General case 2

- > Kernels introduced in the context of Stein discrepancy in lieu of MMD

$$k_0^S(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}'} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + \frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x})} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}'} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + \frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}'} p(\mathbf{x}')}{p(\mathbf{x}')} \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + \frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x})}{p(\mathbf{x})} \frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{x}'} p(\mathbf{x}')}{p(\mathbf{x}')} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

- > Built from any initial kernel  $k$  again, but must be differentiable this time
- > Needs derivative of the log pdf of the inputs
- > Means that we only need to know the pdf up to a constant
  - ♦ Trick extensively used lately (see Chris' talk)
  - ♦ A potential interest for GSA problems where some inputs are obtained through Bayesian calibration

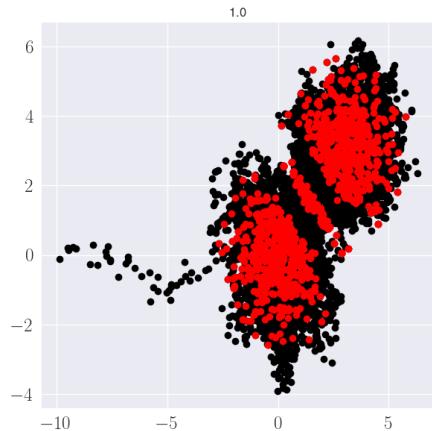
# Conclusion & outlook

## Kernel methods have long been used in computer experiments for surrogate models

- > GP regression is very popular, with a very large literature on the subject (both theory / methodology / applications)
- > There is still extensive work (beyond what I mentioned in this talk)
  - ◆ Non-stationary kernels, kernel selection
  - ◆ Criteria for sequential DOE strategies
  - ◆ Adaptation for stochastic simulators and robust optimization

## For DOE and sensitivity analysis, this is still an emerging field

- > Great promises illustrated only recently
- > Very exciting research directions to be investigated
  - ◆ Still kernel selection, but also **fixing the flaws of the KSD**
  - ◆ Optimization algorithms for DOE, online selection
  - ◆ CLT and more efficient estimators for sensitivity analysis



Γ

Thank you for your  
attention

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