

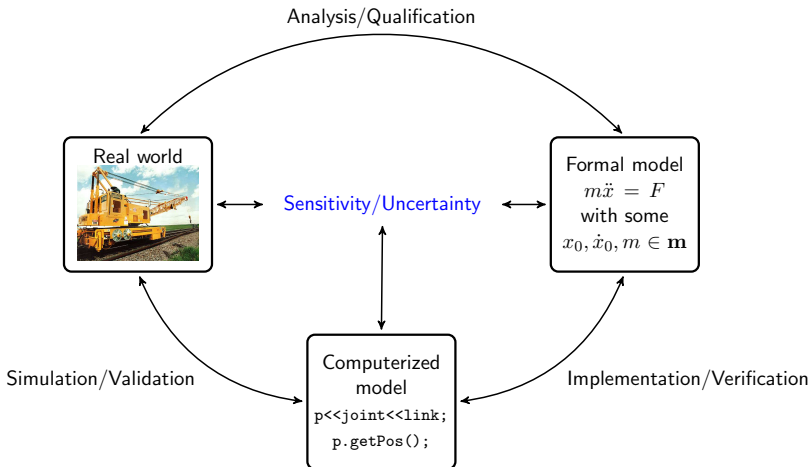
# Kinds of Uncertainty and Possibilities for Their Treatment during Modeling and Simulation in Engineering

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# Modeling and Simulation Cycle



Uncertainty and sensitivity analyses are needed at each stage!

# Imperfect Information: Philosophical Questions

**Open question:** Is there imprecision and uncertainty in the real world?

**Fact:** Data/information as available to an engineer are always imperfect

**Modeling imperfect data:** Probability theory only (until  $\approx$  1960s)

**Currently:** Many different possibilities for modeling, which are not equally suitable for a given situation

**Classification possibility:** Aspects of imperfect information\*

- **Imprecision**

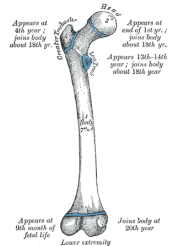
- The length of Mr. X's femur is either 52.6cm or 53.2cm

- **Uncertainty**

- The length of Mr. X's femur is probably 52.6cm

- **Inconsistency, vagueness, ambiguity, error**

- The length of the femur is on average 26.74% of the height, measured 70cm on Mr. X (whose height is 190cm)



\* Ph. Smets, *Imperfect information: Imprecision – Uncertainty*, 1999

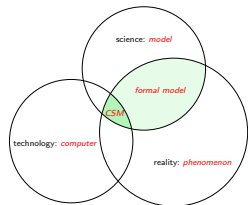
# Basic Notions

**Model (traditional):** A set of mathematical equations along with the *computational expression* that describe a physical phenomenon

**Computerized model (CM):** *Code*

**Accuracy:** The agreement between estimated values and their true values

**Credibility:** The degree of trust that the CM answers a specific research question



**Impreciseness:** Characterized by the absence of an error component

**Uncertainty:** Arises from e.g. a gap in knowledge about the real system or its inherent variability

**Sensitivity:** A measure of the effect of a change in a particular variable on the simulation outputs

Hicks et al., Is My Model Good Enough? DOI: 10.1115/1.4029304

# Errors in an Engineering Application

$P$  — real system

$V$  — representation of the CM solution

$$\max\{|P - M|, |M - D|, |D - L|, |L - V|\} \leq |P - V|$$
$$\leq |P - M| + |M - D| + |D - L| + |L - V|$$

Reality



- 1 Errors in the input data
- 2 Modeling error  $|P - M|$
- 3 Discretisation error  $|M - D|$
- 4 Truncation error  $|D - L|$
- 5 Representation error  $|L - V|$

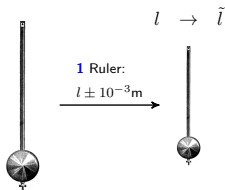
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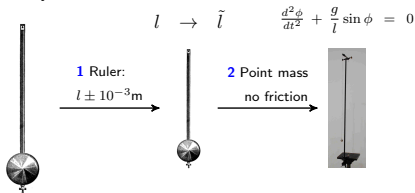
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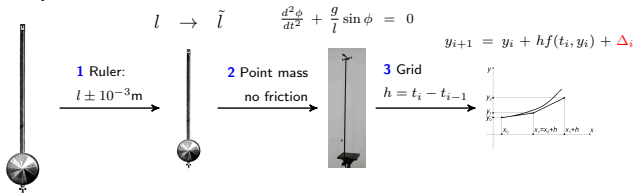
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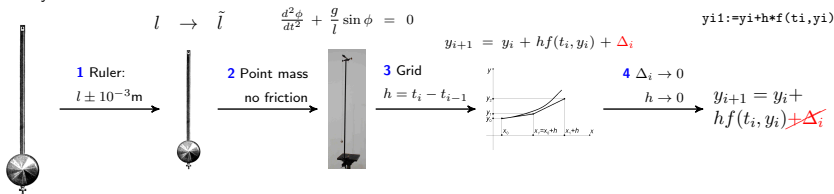
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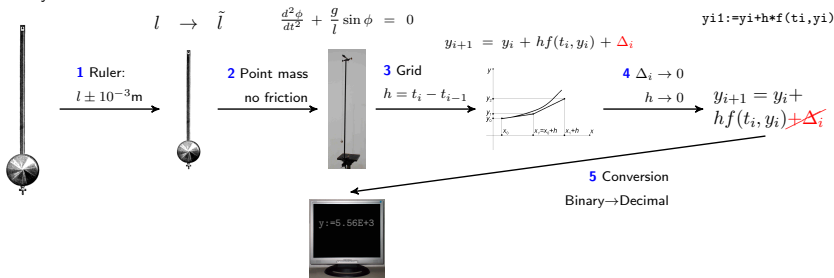
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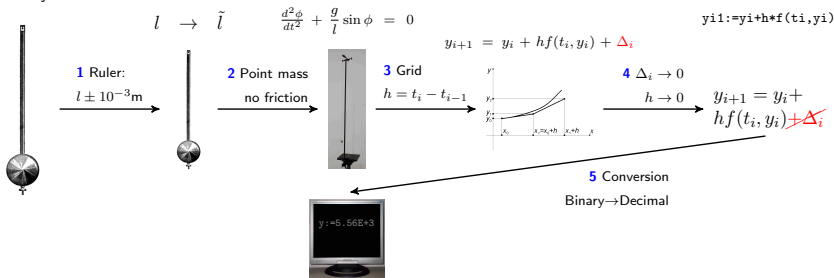
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These 'errors' can be seen as *sources of uncertainty*

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Uncertainty versus Sensitivity Analyses
- 3 Methods and Tools for Uncertainty Quantification
- 4 Summary

# Uncertainty versus Sensitivity Analyses

## Uncertainty analysis

Quantify the uncertainty in the the model output from the uncertainty in the input or vice versa

Direct:

- Probabilistic (e.g. Monte-Carlo, polynomial chaos expansion)
- Non-probabilistic (e.g. [interval](#), fuzzy)

Inverse:

- Frequentist
- Bayesian

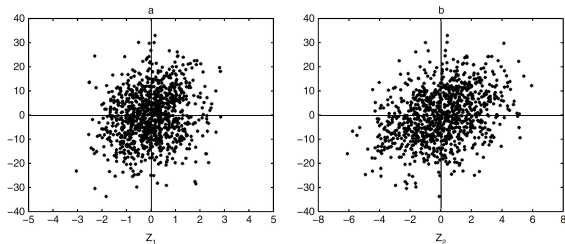
## Sensitivity analysis

Apportion the uncertainty in the model output to different sources of uncertainty in the model input

- Scatter plots
- First derivative  $\mathbf{s}_i = \frac{\partial x(\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n)}{\partial p_i}$  for  $p_i \in \mathbf{p}_i$

# Uncertainty versus Sensitivity Analyses

**Example:**\*  $Y = \Omega(Z_1 + Z_2)$ ,  $Z_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i)$ ,  $Z_1$  less uncertain ( $\sigma_1 < \sigma_2$ )



$$S_i = \frac{\partial Y}{\partial Z_i} = \Omega$$

$\rightsquigarrow Z_1, Z_2$  are equal

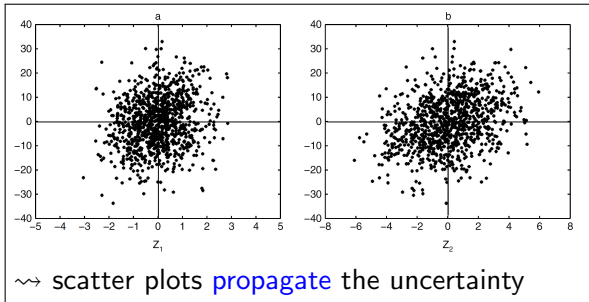
$\rightsquigarrow Z_1$  is less influential

- Point derivatives can lead to wrong conclusions  $\rightsquigarrow S^\sigma = \frac{\sigma_i \partial Y}{\sigma_Y \partial Z_i}$
- Another view:  $S^\sigma$  combines uncertainty and sensitivity!

\* A. Saltelli et al., *Global Sensitivity Analysis: The Primer*, John Wiley & Sons, 2008

# Uncertainty versus Sensitivity Analyses

**Example:**\*  $Y = \Omega(Z_1 + Z_2)$ ,  $Z_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i)$ ,  $Z_1$  less uncertain ( $\sigma_1 < \sigma_2$ )



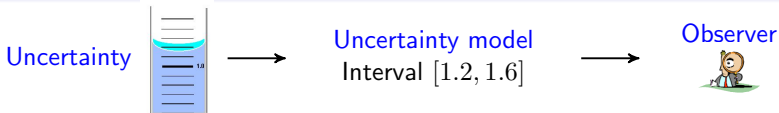
$$S_i = \frac{\partial Y}{\partial Z_i} = \Omega$$

~> the model response is indeed equal

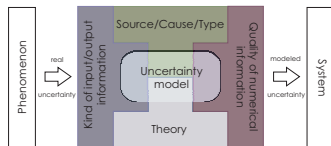
- Sensitivity is *the response of the model to the changes in parameters*
- Uncertainty is quantified by *propagating* it from input to output
- $S^\sigma$  or similar notions *combine* both in one indicator

\* A. Saltelli et al., *Global Sensitivity Analysis: The Primer*, John Wiley & Sons, 2008

# Uncertainty Modeling: Choice of the Method



- 1 Kind/source/cause of uncertainty  
lack of info/complexity/conflict/belief/ambiguity
- 2 Type of input information  
numerical/interval/linguistic/symbolic
- 3 Quality of numerical data  
nominal/ordered/metric/precise/interval/absolute
- 4 Required output information  
numerical/interval/linguistic/symbolic



Uncertainty models require a certain scale level of numerical information

Scale of method's operations  $\leq$  Scale of provided information

**Example:** Frequentist Kolmogorov probability theory:  $(LoI, Num, Cardinal, Num)$



# Sources of Uncertainty

## Two major kinds of uncertainty

### Aleatory (irreducible)



environmental stochasticity  
(as in games of chance)

### Epistemic (reducible)

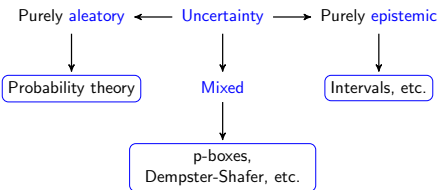


lack of knowledge:  
measurement uncertainty,  
unobservability, censoring

## Sources of uncertainty

- 1 Uncertainty in the model itself (e.g., due to simplifications or parameter/dimension reduction)
- 2 Possible numerical discretization
- 3 Uncertainty in parameters (e.g., due to physical reasons or measurement errors)
- 4 Errors due to the finite nature of floating-point arithmetics

# Main Types of Methods



Fuzzy methods handle impreciseness

- ① A.C. Cullen, H.C. Frey, *Probabilistic techniques in exposure assessment*, 1999
- ② H.M. Wadsworth, *Handbook of statistical methods for engineers and scientists*, 1998
- ③ S. Ferson et al, *Constructing Probability Boxes and Dempster-Shafer Structures*, 2003
- ④ V. Kreinovich et al, *Monte-Carlo-type techniques for processing interval uncertainty...*, 2004
- ⑤ H.-J. Zimmermann, *Fuzzy Set Theory and its Applications*, 2003

	Model	Discretization	Parameters	Arithmetic
PT	1		2	✓
IP	3		4	
F	5		5	
VR	✓	✓	✓	✓

PT=probability theory, IP=p-boxes or Dempster-Shafer, VR= methods with result verification, F=fuzzy

# Types of Algorithms with Uncertain Numbers

**Rigor-preserving** ( $\approx$  with result verification): the result is guaranteed to enclose the uncertainty completely, if inputs enclose it completely

**Best possible** ( $\approx$  inner enclosure): the result cannot get any tighter without more information

**Statistical confidence**: guarantee of the type “in  $x$  percent of the trials, the result is sure to enclose the uncertainty completely”

We will focus (mostly) on parametric uncertainty, direct case

Probabilistic methods  $\rightarrow$  Monte-Carlo, polynomial chaos exp.

Set-based methods  $\rightarrow$  Result verification

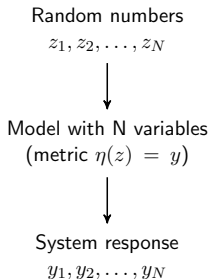
Mixed methods  $\rightarrow$  p-boxes, Dempster-Shafer

# Monte-Carlo Simulation

## Applications in connection with uncertainty

- Properties of random variables with unknown distributions
- Uncertainty propagation, failure analysis


**Advantage:** simple to implement    **Disadvantage:** no proof of correctness

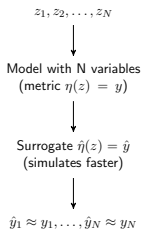


- 1 Use the existing data to create a CDF for each input
- 2 Create an empty Frequency Distribution Histogram
- 3 The  $i$ th iteration step ( $i = 1 \dots 50000$ ):
  - 1 Loop over each input variable; calculate a weighted random number for inputs
  - 2 Use the weighted value of all input variables in the metric to calculate a representative answer
  - 3 Adjust the FDH appropriately
- 4 Repeat Step 3 if the final FDH is not complete
- 5 Normalize the FDH into DPDF; interpret the results

[www.drjfwright.com/c/montecarlosimulation.html](http://www.drjfwright.com/c/montecarlosimulation.html)

# Polynomial Chaos Expansion

 Monte-Carlo can become computationally prohibitive for complex metrics



**Goal:** Quantify uncertainty (e.g. in differential equations)

**Method:** Represent stochastic quantities as spectral expansions of orthogonal polynomials;  $X = f(\Xi)$ ,  $\Xi$  with a given distribution,  $f \approx$  polynomial expansion

**Example:**  $X \sim \chi_1^2$ ,  $\Xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ , then  $X = \Xi^2$ , Hermite polynomials  $\phi_0(\xi) = 1, \phi_1(\xi) = \xi, \phi_2(\xi) = \xi^2 - 1, \dots$

**Generally:**  $F_x, F_\xi$  the CDFs of  $X, \Xi$ , then  $X = F_x^{-1}(F_\xi(\Xi)) = f(\Xi)$

**Polynomial chaos expansion 1D:**  $X \approx \sum_{j=0}^p x_j \phi_j(\Xi)$ ,  $x_j = \frac{\langle f, \phi_j \rangle}{\langle \phi_j, \phi_j \rangle}$  (truncated)

**Propagation:**  $Y \approx \sum_{j=0}^p y_j \phi_j(\Xi) \approx \eta(\sum_{j=0}^p x_j \phi_j(\Xi))$  (e.g. by Galerkin projection)

**Non-intrusive:** Solve  $y_k = \frac{\langle \eta(\sum_{j=0}^p x_j \phi_j(\Xi)), \phi_k \rangle}{\langle \phi_k, \phi_k \rangle}$ ,  $k = 0 \dots p$

A. O'Hagan, *Polynomial Chaos: A Tutorial and Critique*, 2013, [www.tonyohagan.co.uk/academic/pdf/Polynomial-chaos.pdf](http://www.tonyohagan.co.uk/academic/pdf/Polynomial-chaos.pdf)

# Methods with Result Verification

**Idea:** Use set-based methods, if uncertainty can be bounded

# Methods with Result Verification

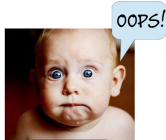
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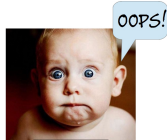
Not that easy....



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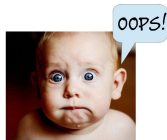
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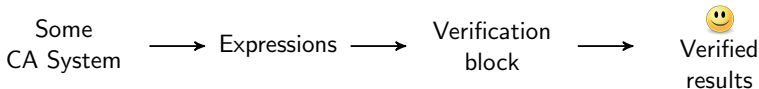
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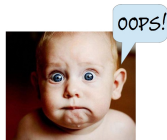
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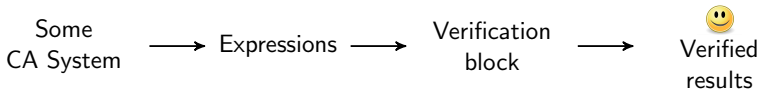
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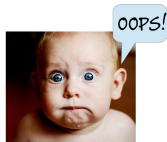


**Many simulation tools** do not produce models as expressions!

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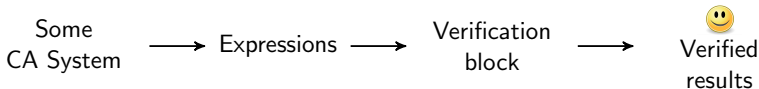
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**Many simulation tools** do not produce models as expressions!

**Nonetheless** possible, if simulation tools are open-source

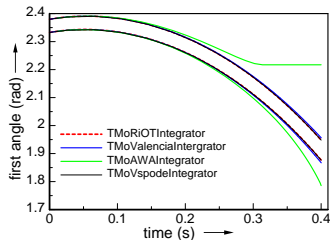
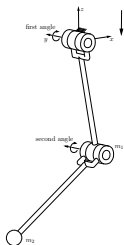
# Tools: SMARTMOBILE for (Bio)Mechanics

- 1 Verified kinematics/dynamics + uncertainty management
- 2 Free choice of the underlying arithmetic: templates + solvers

Type	Integrator	Purpose
MoReal	MoAdams, ...	nonverified dynamics
TMoInterval	TMoAWA	verified dynamics of ODE based systems
TMoFInterval	TMoValencia	
TMoTaylorModel	TMoRiOT	
TMoTaylorModel	TMoVSPODE	
RDAInterval	---	Taylor model based kinematics
MoFInterval	MoIGradient	verified equilibria kinematics with cons- traints
MoSInterval	TMoValenciaS	verified sensitivity
...	...	...

- 3 Converters MOBILE  $\rightarrow$  SMARTMOBILE

# Example: Dynamics of a Double Pendulum



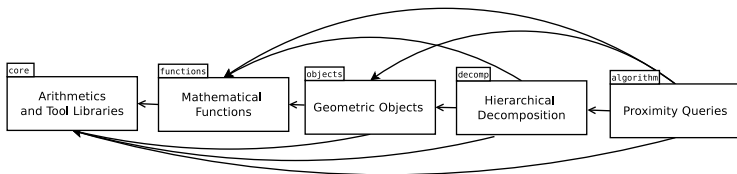
```
# define TMOInterval t;
TMOFrame<t> K0, K1, K2, K3, K4;
TMOAngularVariable<t> psi1, psi2;
// transmission elements
TMOVector<t> l1(0,0,-1), l2(0,0,-1);
TMOElementaryJoint<t> R1(K0,K1,psi1,xAxis);
TMOElementaryJoint<t> R2(K2,K3,psi2,xAxis);
TMORigidLink<t> rod1(K1,K2,l1),rod2(K3,K4,l2);
t m1(1),m2(1);
TMOMassElement<t> Tip1(K2,m1),Tip2(K4,m2);
// the complete system
TMOMapChain<t> Pend;
Pend << R1<<rod1<<Tip1<<R2<<rod2<<Tip2;
// dynamics
TMOVariableList<t> q; q << psi1<<psi2;
TMOMechanicalSystem<t> S(q,Pend,K0,zAxis);
TMOAWAIntegrator I(S,0.0001,ITS_QR,15);
I.doMotion();
```

Strategy	TMOAWA (variable $h$ )	TMOriOT ( $0.0002 \leq h \leq 0.2$ )	TMOValencia ( $h = 10^{-4}$ )	TMOVSPODE (variable $h$ )
Break-down	0.420	0.801	0.531	0.656
CPU Time*	5	285	22	10

\* computed on  $8 \times$  Intel Xeon CPU 2.00GHz under Linux 2.6.25.14-69.fc8

# UNI<sub>VER</sub>M<sub>EC</sub> Instead of Templates

## Unified Framework for Verified Geometric Computations



Relaxed layered structure:

- core** *Adapter for underlying arithmetic libraries*
- functions** *Uniform representation for functions*
- objects** *Implicit surfaces, CSG models, polyhedrons*
- decomp** *Spatial decomposition, Multisection schemes*
- algorithms** *Distance computation, Global optimization, ...*

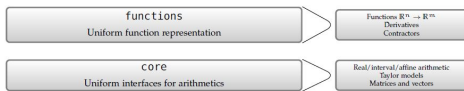
S. Kiel, UNI<sub>VER</sub>M<sub>EC</sub> – A Framework for Development, Assessment and Interoperable Use of Verified Techniques, 2014

# UNIVERMEC: Function Specification

## Important: Interoperability

The capability to communicate, execute programs, or transfer data among various functional units in a manner that requires the user to have little or no knowledge of the unique characteristics of those units

**Necessary:** Formalizations for arithmetics, types of enclosures, etc.



$f : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m$ , tools for user-defined functions (inductive), analytical expressions or C++ code blocks

**Function extensions:** Evaluated with all arithmetics supported by core

→ e.g. natural interval extension (replace everything with interval versions)

**Features:** set of functionalities associated with  $f$  (e.g., differentiability)

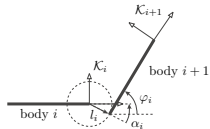
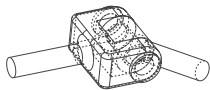
**FR object:** Tuple  $F_{f,n,m} = (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{F})$  where  $\mathcal{I}$  is the set of inclusion functions,  $\mathcal{F}$  is a choice out of  $r$  supported features

If  $\mathcal{I}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  are defined appropriately, e.g. probabilistic arithmetics can be used!



# Bounded Uncertainty at the Analysis Stage

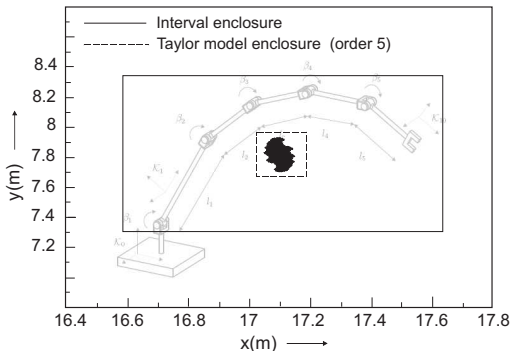
## TMoSloppyJoint:



## Parameter:

Lengths	$\pm 1\%$
Slackness	$\pm 2\text{mm}$
Angle	$\pm 0.1^\circ$

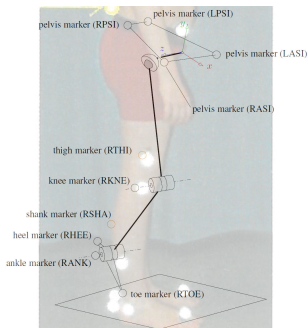
## Results:



	x	y	Time (s)
TMoInterval	1.047	1.041	0.02
TMoTaylorModel	0.163	0.290	0.14

# Purely Parametric Bounded Uncertainty

## Body segment motion



## Parameters (mm):

knee width      120 ± 10  
 ankle width     80 ± 10  
 displacements   tangential/soft tissue ± 10  
                          normal ± 5

## Femur length (mm):

	TMoRDA	INTERVAL
Knee, ankle	[377.6; 396.7]	[0; ∞]
Skin displacement	[0.000; 621.4]	no answer

## Point sensitivity of femur wrt.

Knee	Ankle	Tangential	Normal	Soft
0.4	-0.3	-2	0.7	1.4

$$\text{Reference } \mathbf{r} = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i \cdot \mathbf{p}_i$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\pm 7\text{mm}}$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\pm 37.5\text{mm}}$

# Probability Boxes

**Given:**  $\bar{F}$  and  $\underline{F} : \mathbb{R} \mapsto [0, 1]$  nondecreasing,  $\underline{F}(x) \leq \bar{F}(x), \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$

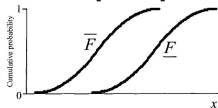
$[\bar{F}, \underline{F}]$ : Set of all nondecreasing functions  $F : \mathbb{R} \mapsto [0, 1]$  with

$$\underline{F}(x) \leq F(x) \leq \bar{F}(x)$$

**Definition:**  $[\bar{F}, \underline{F}]$  is called a p-box (probability box) when  $\underline{F}$  and  $\bar{F}$  circumscribe an imprecisely known probability distribution

**Meaning:** If  $X$  is a random variable with the unknown distribution

$F \in [\bar{F}, \underline{F}]$  then  $\underline{F}(x)$  is a lower bound on  $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$



$$\bar{F}(x) = 1 - \underline{P}(X > x), \underline{F}(x) = \underline{P}(X \leq x)$$

$\underline{P}$  is a lower probability for an event  $A$  (the maximum rate one would be willing to pay for the gamble that pays 1 unit of utility if  $A$  occurs)

**Bounds on** the result of  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\cdot$ ,  $/$  of random variables defined using only bounds on their input distributions can be given

S. Ferson et al, *Constructing Probability Boxes and Dempster-Shafer Structures*, 2003

# (Finite) Dempster-Shafer Structures

## Discrete distributions

Probability density

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \underbrace{P(X = x_i)}_{\approx \text{probability mass}} & \text{for } x = x_i \\ 0 & \text{for } x \neq x_i \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \underbrace{P(X = x_i)}_{\text{probability mass}} & \text{for } x \in \text{Set}_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$i = 1, 2, \dots$                        $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

## Idea Dempster-Shafer

**Interpretation:** Classical probability theory in a topologically coarser space (where each focal element is identified as a point)

**Focal elements**  $a_i \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ : Sets associated with nonzero mass; may overlap one another

**Basic probability assignment:** Correspondence of probability masses associated with the focal elements;  $m : 2^{\mathbb{R}} \mapsto [0, 1]$ ,  $m(\emptyset) = 0$ ,  $m(a_i) = p_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $p_i > 0$ ,  $\sum_i p_i = 1$

# Dempster-Shafer Structures: Plausibility and Belief

**Assumption:** Let  $a_i$  be closed intervals,  $b \subseteq \mathbb{R}$

**Plausibility function:**  $Pl : 2^{\mathbb{R}} \mapsto [0, 1]$ ,  $Pl(b) = \sum_{a_i \cap b \neq \emptyset} m(a_i)$

**Belief function:**  $Bel : 2^{\mathbb{R}} \mapsto [0, 1]$ ,  $Bel(b) = \sum_{a_i \subseteq b} m(a_i)$

**Property:**  $Bel(b) \leq Pl(b)$

**Arithmetic operations** generalize the notion of convolution between distribution functions

**The upper bound for the distribution function:**  $\sum_{\inf(a_i) \leq z} p_i$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}$   
(step function with  $n$  discontinuities)

**The lower bound:**  $\sum_{\sup(a_i) \leq z} p_i$

# P-boxes Versus Dempster-Shafer Structures

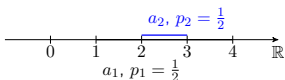
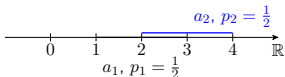
**Dempster-Shafer:** Uncertainty in the  $x$ -value, certainty in the  $p$ -value

**P-box:** Uncertainty about probabilities, certainty about events

**Nonetheless:** Dual, can be converted into each other

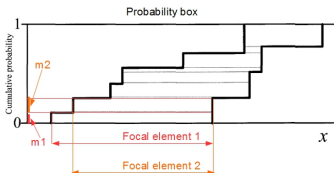
**DS  $\rightarrow$  p-box:**  $([x_i, y_i], p_i) \rightarrow \bar{F}(z) = \sum_{x_i \leq z} p_i, \underline{F}(z) = \sum_{y_i \leq z} p_i$

**Relationship:** Many Dempster-Shafer structures, a single p-box



$$\underline{F}(z) = \begin{cases} 0, & z < 3 \\ \frac{1}{2}, & z \in [3, 4) \\ 1, & z \geq 4 \end{cases} \quad \bar{F}(z) = \begin{cases} 0, & z < 1 \\ \frac{1}{2}, & z \in [1, 2) \\ 1, & z \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

**P-box  $\rightarrow$  DS:**



# When to Apply?

- 1 Imprecisely specified distributions
- 2 Poorly known or even unknown dependencies
- 3 Non-negligible measurement uncertainty
- 4 Non-detects or other censoring in measurements
- 5 Small sample size
- 6 Inconsistency in the quality of input data
- 7 Model uncertainty
- 8 Non-stationarity (non-constant distributions)

# Tools: Codes, References, Links for DS-Structures and P-Boxes

**P-boxes:** RISKCALC (commercial)

→ <http://www.ramas.com/riskcalc.htm>

→ probability bounds analysis, standard fuzzy arithmetic, and classical interval analysis

**DS-structures:** IPPTOOLBOX (in MATLAB or R, open-source)

→ [www.uni-due.de/informationslogistik/ipptoolbox.php](http://www.uni-due.de/informationslogistik/ipptoolbox.php)

**DS-structures with verified intervals:** DSI TOOLBOX  
(MATLAB, open-source)

→ [www.scg.inf.uni-due.de/forschung/software/dsi-toolbox.php](http://www.scg.inf.uni-due.de/forschung/software/dsi-toolbox.php)

**Applications, comparisons:** [www.lix.polytechnique.fr/~bouissou/](http://www.lix.polytechnique.fr/~bouissou/)



# Stochastic arithmetic and the CADNA software

**Stochastic arithmetic:** Model for exact computation on imprecise data  $\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$

**Origin:** Cestac method by J. Vignes and J. M. Chesneaux, 1992

**Idea:** Interpret imprecise data as stochastic numbers  
( $\mathbb{S}$  is the set of Gaussian random variables)

**Therefore:**  $X \in \mathbb{S}$  is characterized by  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$

**Property:**  $\exists \lambda_\nu: P(X \in [\mu - \lambda_\nu \sigma, \mu + \lambda_\nu \sigma]) = 1 - \nu$

**Confidence interval of  $\mu$**  with the probability  $1 - \nu$ :  $[\mu - \lambda_\nu \sigma, \mu + \lambda_\nu \sigma]$ ,  
(e.g.  $\lambda_\nu = 1.96$  for  $\nu = 0.05$ )

**Significant decimal digits on  $\mu$ :**  $\log_{10}(\frac{|m|}{\lambda_\nu \sigma})$  if  $\frac{|m|}{\lambda_\nu \sigma} \geq 10$  otherwise 0

**Operations:** Follow from the properties of the Gaussian distribution

**Software:** CADNA, [www-pequan.lip6.fr/cadna/](http://www-pequan.lip6.fr/cadna/), estimates round-off errors

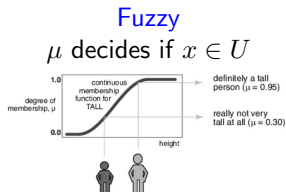
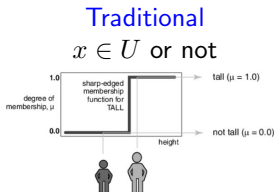
**Example:**  $P(x, y) = 9x^4 - y^4 + 2y^2$ ,  $P(10864, 18817) = 2.0$  (wrong, exact=1.0),  
 $P(1/3, 2/3) = 0.802\dots$  (correct). Is there any way to distinguish the quality?  
In CADNA, the number of significant digits is computed to be zero in the first case, normal (15) in the second!

# Fuzzy: Short Overview

**Goal:** Model impreciseness/vaughness (*a little, very, etc.*)

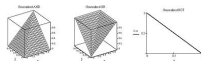
**Definition:** Pair  $(U, \mu)$  is a fuzzy set, where  $U$  is a set and  $\mu : U \mapsto [0, 1]$  a membership function,  $\mu(x)$  the grade of membership of  $x$  in  $U$

Set vs. fuzzy set



**Fuzzy number** Convex, normalized fuzzy set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  with continuous  $\mu_A(x) = 1$  at precisely one element

**Operations:**  $x \text{ AND } y = \min(x, y)$ ,  $x \text{ OR } y = \max(x, y)$ ,  $\text{NOT } x = 1 - x$



**Fuzzy decisions:** Rules for credibility, aggregation etc.

[www.calvin.edu/~pribeiro/othrlnks/Fuzzy/fuzzysets.htm](http://www.calvin.edu/~pribeiro/othrlnks/Fuzzy/fuzzysets.htm)

# Mixed Methods: Some References

A set-membership method to characterize a probabilistic set:

L. Jaulin et al., *Inner and outer approximations of probabilistic sets*, 2014

[www.ensta-bretagne.fr/jaulin/teaching.html](http://www.ensta-bretagne.fr/jaulin/teaching.html)

Fuzzy probability theory: M. Beer, *Fuzzy Probability Theory*, In: Meyers, R. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Complexity and Systems Science*, 2009

Comparisons: M Beer, V. Kreinovich, *Interval or Moments: Which Carry More Information?*, 2012

Imprecise probabilities: <http://www.sipta.org/>

Intervals and probabilities:

<http://ualr.edu/jdberleant/intprob/>

# Approaches to Uncertainty Visualization

**Goal:** Present data with auxiliary uncertainty information

L. Gosink et al., *Characterizing and Visualizing Predictive Uncertainty*, 2013, [graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~joy/NSF-IIS-1018097/](http://graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~joy/NSF-IIS-1018097/)

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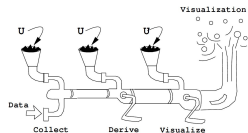


Most works deal with random aleatory uncertainty

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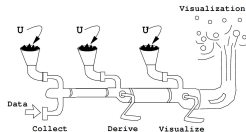
- Depends on uncertainty *sources*,
- figure does not consider *model* uncertainty

Figure from A. Pang et al., *Approaches to uncertainty visualization*, 1997

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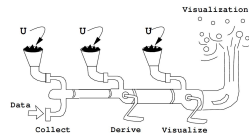
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**Taxonomies:** Dimensionality of data vs that of uncertainty

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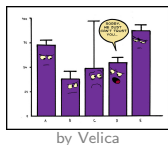
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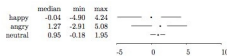
**Taxonomies:** Dimensionality of data vs that of uncertainty

**Methods:** For example, for scalar/multivariate/vector discrete data

Error bars



Tufte plots



Chernoff



Glyphs




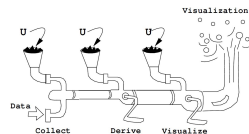
L. Gosink et al., *Characterizing and Visualizing Predictive Uncertainty*, 2013, [graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~joy/NSF-IIS-1018097/](http://graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~joy/NSF-IIS-1018097/)



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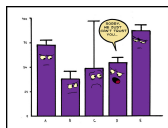
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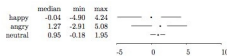
**Methods:** For example, for scalar/multivariate/vector discrete data

Error bars



by Velica

Tufte plots



Chernoff



Glyphs



**Evaluation:** e.g. K. Potter et al., *From Quantification to Visualization...*, 2011

L. Gosink et al., *Characterizing and Visualizing Predictive Uncertainty*, 2013, [graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~joy/NSF-IIS-1018097/](http://graphics.cs.ucdavis.edu/~joy/NSF-IIS-1018097/)

# Summary

## Learned in this workshop:

**Uncertainty:** Definition, types, sources, models

**Model uncertainty:** Mostly not considered here

**Parametric uncertainty:** At modeling and simulation level

- Classical uncertainty: Monte-Carlo, polynomial chaos expansions
- *Bounded uncertainty*: intervals, Taylor models etc.
- Imprecise probabilities: *p-boxes*, *DS-structures*
- Impreciseness: fuzzy sets

## Interesting research topics:

- Uncertainty visualization
- Interoperability/implementation issues
- Parallelization/templatization (e.g. on the GPU)