



## Solvers for large linear systems arising in the Stochastic Finite Element Method

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# Outline

- Stochastic Finite Element Method (SFEM)
  - Variational formulation of elliptic SPDEs
  - Structure of Galerkin matrix
- Aspects of the stochastic discretization
  - Multivariate basis functions: complete/tensor polynomials
  - Structure and spectral properties of stochastic Galerkin matrices
- Solvers for the global Galerkin system
  - block-diagonal Galerkin system: Krylov subspace recycling method
  - fully-coupled Galerkin system: Mean-based preconditioner
- Numerical examples

# 1 Review of SFEM

[Ghanem & Spanos, 1991]

## Stochastic elliptic boundary value problem

Given: bounded spatial domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  with boundary  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_N$  and a complete probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$ .

Task: solve the second order elliptic **stochastic** boundary value problem

$$-\nabla \cdot (T(\mathbf{x}, \omega) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}, \omega)) = F(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in D, \quad P. - a.s. \quad (1a)$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = p_D(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_D, \quad (1b)$$

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (T \nabla p)(\mathbf{x}) = p_N(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_N. \quad (1c)$$

Note:  $T$  and therefore  $p$  are **random fields**.

## Mixed formulation of stochastic elliptic bvp

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = -T(\mathbf{x}, \omega) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}, \omega), \quad \mathbf{x} \in D, P. - a.s. \quad (2a)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = F(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in D, P. - a.s. \quad (2b)$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = p_D(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_D, \quad (2c)$$

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = -p_N(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_N. \quad (2d)$$

## Mixed stochastic variational formulation

Find functions  $\mathbf{u} \in H_{\Gamma_N}(\text{div}, D) \otimes L_P^2(\Omega)$  and  $p \in L^2(D) \otimes L_P^2(\Omega)$  such that for all test functions  $\mathbf{v} \in H_{\Gamma_N}(\text{div}, D) \otimes L_P^2(\Omega)$  and  $q \in L^2(D) \otimes L_P^2(\Omega)$  there holds

$$\left\langle \int_D T^{-1} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} \, d\mathbf{x} \right\rangle - \left\langle \int_D p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \, d\mathbf{x} \right\rangle = - \left\langle \int_{\Gamma_D} p_D \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v} \right\rangle \quad (3a)$$

$$\left\langle - \int_D \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} q \, d\mathbf{x} \right\rangle = - \left\langle \int_D F q \, d\mathbf{x} \right\rangle. \quad (3b)$$

### Notation:

$\langle \cdot \rangle$  denotes the expectation operator w.r.t. the measure  $P$

$$\langle \xi \rangle := \int_{\Omega} \xi(\omega) dP(\omega),$$

$$L_P^2(\Omega) := \left\{ \xi(\omega) : \int_{\Omega} \xi^2(\omega) dP(\omega) < \infty \right\} = \left\{ \xi : \langle \xi^2 \rangle < \infty \right\}$$

## Discretization steps of stochastic variational formulation

- Input random fields depend on  $M$  mutually independent random variables  $\{\xi_m\}_{m=1}^M$  with given probability density functions  $\rho_m : \Gamma_m \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ .

$$\rho(\boldsymbol{\xi}) := \rho_1(\xi_1) \cdots \rho_M(\xi_M), \quad \boldsymbol{\xi} \in \Gamma := \Gamma_1 \times \cdots \times \Gamma_M.$$

- Reformulation of (3): Identify  $L_P^2(\Omega)$  with  $L_\rho^2(\Gamma)$  and  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  with  $\int_\Gamma \rho(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \cdot d\boldsymbol{\xi}$ .
- Deterministic discretization: choose finite dimensional spaces

$$X^h := \text{span} \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_{N_x^u}\} \subset H_{\Gamma_N}(\text{div}, D)$$

$$Y^h := \text{span} \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_{N_x^p}\} \subset L^2(D)$$

- Stochastic discretization:

$$W^h := \text{span} \{\psi_1(\boldsymbol{\xi}), \psi_2(\boldsymbol{\xi}), \dots, \psi_{N_\xi}(\boldsymbol{\xi})\} \subset L_\rho^2(\Gamma).$$

- Variational space:

$$(X^h \times Y^h) \otimes W^h \subset (H_{\Gamma_N}(\text{div}, D) \times L^2(D)) \otimes L_\rho^2(\Gamma)$$

## Representation of input random field

$$T^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}} T_n(\mathbf{x}) \psi_n(\boldsymbol{\xi})$$

### Karhunen-Loève expansion

$$T^{-1} = \langle T^{-1} \rangle + \sum_{m=1}^M T_m(\mathbf{x}) \xi_m$$

For details see O. Ernst's talk.

**linear** in  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$

$M + 1$  terms

Example: **Gaussian** random fields

### Wiener's polynomial chaos expansion

$$T^{-1} = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{J}} T_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) H_{\alpha}(\boldsymbol{\xi})$$

$$\mathcal{J} := \{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^M, |\alpha| \leq d\}$$

**nonlinear** in  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$  for  $d > 1$

$\binom{M+d}{M}$  terms

Example: **lognormal** random fields



## Structure of Galerkin matrix ( $\psi_1 \equiv 1$ )

$$A = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\xi}} G_n \otimes K_n$$

Stochastic part:

$$[G_n]_{\ell,j} = \langle \psi_n \psi_{\ell} \psi_j \rangle, \quad n, j, \ell = 1, \dots, N_{\xi}.$$

Deterministic part:

$$K_1 = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 & B^T \\ B & O \end{bmatrix} \quad K_n = \begin{bmatrix} A_n & O \\ O & O \end{bmatrix} \quad n = 2, 3, \dots, N_{\xi},$$

$$[B]_{i,k} = - \int_D \nabla \cdot \phi_i(\mathbf{x}) \pi_k(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N_{\mathbf{x}}^u, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, N_{\mathbf{x}}^p,$$

$$[A_n]_{i,k} = \int_D T_n(\mathbf{x}) \phi_i(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \phi_k(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad i, k = 1, 2, \dots, N_{\mathbf{x}}^u, \quad n = 1, \dots, N_{\xi}.$$

## 2 The stochastic discretization

**Basis functions** for  $W_h \subset L^2_\rho(\Gamma)$ :  $\psi_\alpha(\boldsymbol{\xi}) = \prod_{m=1}^M p_{\alpha_m}^{(m)}(\xi_m)$

where  $\langle p_i^{(m)} p_j^{(m)} \rangle = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_M) \in \mathbb{N}_0^M$  is a multi-index.

tensor polynomials (TP)	complete polynomials (CP)
$\deg(p_{\alpha_m}^{(m)}) \leq d, m = 1, \dots, M$	$\sum_{m=1}^M \deg(p_{\alpha_m}^{(m)}) \leq d$
$W_h = \mathbb{Q}_d$	$W_h = \mathbb{P}_d$
$\dim(\mathbb{Q}_d) = (d+1)^M$	$\dim(\mathbb{P}_d) = \binom{M+d}{M}$

Numbering convention of basis polynomials:  $n \leftrightarrow \alpha, G_n \leftrightarrow G_\alpha$

(TP)  $\alpha_1 = 0, \alpha_1 = 1, \dots, \alpha_1 = d, \alpha_2 = 0, \alpha_2 = 1, \dots, \alpha_2 = d, \dots, \alpha_M = d$

(CP) Same as for (TP), but drop multi-indices with  $|\alpha| > d$ .

$\alpha$	$\psi_\alpha$	In $\mathbb{P}_d$ ?
(0,0)	$p_0(\xi_1)p_0(\xi_2)$	✓
(1,0)	$p_1(\xi_1)p_0(\xi_2)$	✓
(2,0)	$p_2(\xi_1)p_0(\xi_2)$	✓
(0,1)	$p_0(\xi_1)p_1(\xi_2)$	✓
(1,1)	$p_1(\xi_1)p_1(\xi_2)$	✓
(2,1)	$p_2(\xi_1)p_1(\xi_2)$	×
(0,2)	$p_0(\xi_1)p_2(\xi_2)$	✓
(1,2)	$p_1(\xi_1)p_2(\xi_2)$	×
(2,2)	$p_2(\xi_1)p_2(\xi_2)$	×

Table 1: Dropping of basis polynomials for  $M = 2$ ,  $d = 2$ .

## Matrix structure and eigenvalue bounds

	$G_\alpha$	$\lambda_{\max}(G_\alpha)$
$M = 1$	$\langle p_n p_i p_j \rangle = [U_n]_{ij}$	
$n = 0$	$I_{d+1}$	$= 1$
$n = 1$	$\langle \xi p_i p_j \rangle$	largest root of $p_{d+1}$ [Golub, Welsch]
$n = 2$	$\langle p_2 p_i p_j \rangle$	$\mathcal{O}(d)$ [U.] for Gaussian $\xi$
$\mathbb{Q}_d$	$U_{\alpha_M}^{(M)} \otimes \cdots \otimes U_{\alpha_1}^{(1)}$	$= \max \left\{ \prod_{m=1}^M \lambda_m, \lambda_m \in \Lambda(U_{\alpha_m}^{(m)}) \right\}$
$ \alpha  = 1$	-	$= \lambda_{\max} \left( U_1^{(m)} \right), \alpha_m = 1$
$\mathbb{P}_d$	-	$\leq \max \left\{ \prod_{m=1}^M \lambda_m, \lambda_m \in \Lambda(U_{\alpha_m}^{(m)}) \right\}$
$ \alpha  = 1$	-	$= \lambda_{\max}(U_1)$ [U.], [Elman, Powell] for $\{\xi_i\}_{i=1}^M$ iid

### 3 Solution strategies

The input random field  $T$  is

- **linear**  $\Rightarrow G_\alpha, |\alpha| \leq 1$ . The stochastic basis functions are
  - ▶ complete polynomials: Solve system in  $N_x \cdot N_\xi$  unknowns. [Ghanem & Pellissetti], [Ghanem & Kruger], [Le Maître et al.], [Matthies & Keese], [Seynaeve et al.], [Elman & Furnival], [Elman & Powell], [Rosseel et al.]

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  - ▶ tensor polynomials: Construct biorthogonal stochastic basis functions. Solve  $N_\xi$  systems in  $N_x$  unknowns in parallel or use Krylov subspace recycling techniques. [Eiermann, Ernst & U.], [Cai et al.], [Ernst, U. et al.]

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- **nonlinear**  $\Rightarrow G_\alpha, |\alpha| > 1$ . The stochastic basis functions are
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## (A) Decoupled case

Task: Solution of  $N_\xi$  linear systems of size  $N_x \times N_x$ .

$$K_\ell = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 & B^T \\ B & O \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{n=2}^{N_\xi} g_{n,\ell} \begin{bmatrix} A_n & O \\ O & O \end{bmatrix}, \quad \ell = 1, \dots, N_\xi.$$

Our approach: Sequential solution of systems by iterative methods.

- MINRES [Paige & Saunders]
- R-MINRES [De Sturler et al.]

**(A) Decoupled case - preconditioning**

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} D & O \\ O & S \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \text{diag}(A_1), \quad S = BD^{-1}B^T$$

(a) [Powell & Silvester, 2004]

$$P_{amg} = \begin{bmatrix} D & O \\ O & \text{amg}(S) \end{bmatrix}$$

(b)

$$P_{chol} = \begin{bmatrix} D & O \\ O & \text{cholinc}(S, 0) \end{bmatrix}$$

## (B) Coupled case

Task: Solution of **one** linear system of size  $(N_x \cdot N_\xi) \times (N_x \cdot N_\xi)$

Our approach: use MINRES together with a mean-based preconditioner

$$P = I_{N_\xi} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} D & O \\ O & \text{amg}(S) \end{bmatrix}$$

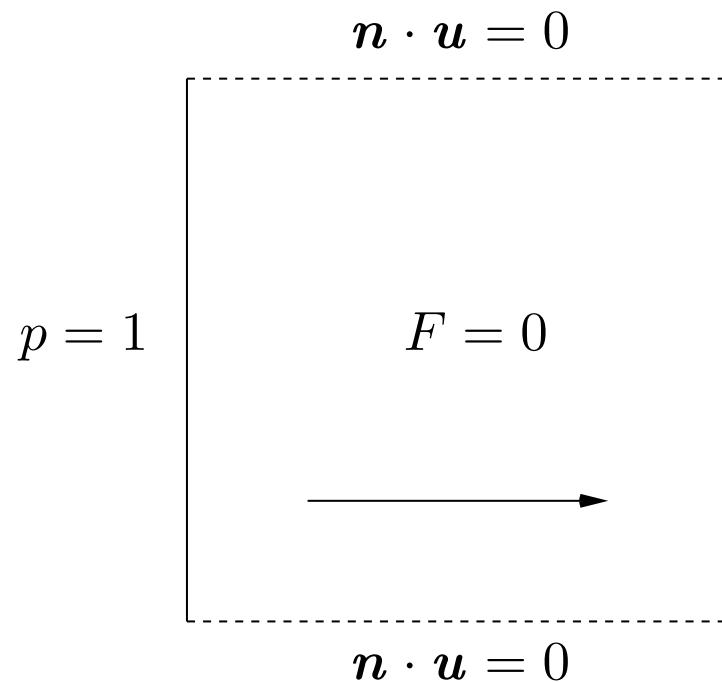
$$D = \text{diag}(A_1), \quad S = BD^{-1}B^T, \quad [\text{Powell \& Silvester, 2004}]$$

$$(A_1)_{i,k} = \int_D \langle T^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \phi_i(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \phi_k(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad i, k = 1, 2, \dots, N_x^u.$$

## 4 Numerical examples

### (A) Decoupled case - model problem

Flow from western to eastern boundary in unit square  $D = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$ .



#### Deterministic discretization

- $32 \times 32$  mesh
- $RT_0$  square elements for  $u$
- $Q_0$  square elements for  $p$

### Random field model:

$T^{-1}$  is a **Gaussian random field** with constant mean  $\mu = \langle T^{-1} \rangle = 1$  and double exponential covariance function

$$\text{Cov}_{T^{-1}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sigma^2 \exp\left(-\frac{|x_1 - y_1|}{c_1} - \frac{|x_2 - y_2|}{c_2}\right), \quad c_1 = c_2 = 3.$$

- Truncated Karhunen-Loève (KL) expansion:

$$T^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = \mu + \sigma \sum_{m=1}^M T_m(\mathbf{x}) \xi_m, \quad \xi_m \sim N(0, 1), \quad m = 1, \dots, M.$$

- Use analytic expressions for KL expansion terms [Ghanem & Spanos].
- Mean problem has solution  $\mathbf{u} = [1, 0]^T$ ,  $p = 1 - x$ .

## Performance of preconditioners - no recycling

Average MINRES iterations,  $\frac{\|r_k\|_{P^{-1}}}{\|r_0\|_{P^{-1}}} < 10^{-8}$ ,  $N_x = 3072$ .

AMG version						CHOL version					
$\sigma$	$M \setminus d$	2	3	4	5	$\sigma$	$M \setminus d$	2	3	4	5
0.1	3	39	40	40	40	0.1	3	159	161	162	163
	4	39	40	40	41		4	159	161	163	164
	5	39	40	41	41		5	160	162	164	165
0.2	3	42	44	45	48	0.2	3	166	172	175	182
	4	42	44	46	-		4	168	174	178	-
	5	43	45	48	-		5	169	175	182	-

## Performance of R-MINRES(m,k)

Average iterations,  $\frac{\|r_k\|_{P^{-1}}}{\|r_0\|_{P^{-1}}} < 10^{-8}$ ,  $N_x = 3072$ ,  $M = 5$ ,  $d = 3$ ,  $N_\xi = 1024$ .

Store at most  $m + k$  vectors, recycle  $k$  vectors.

AMG version

$m$	$k$	$\sigma = 0.1$	$\sigma = 0.2$
20	10	40	46
20	20	40	46
40	20	40	46
40	40	39	45
-	-	40	45

CHOL version

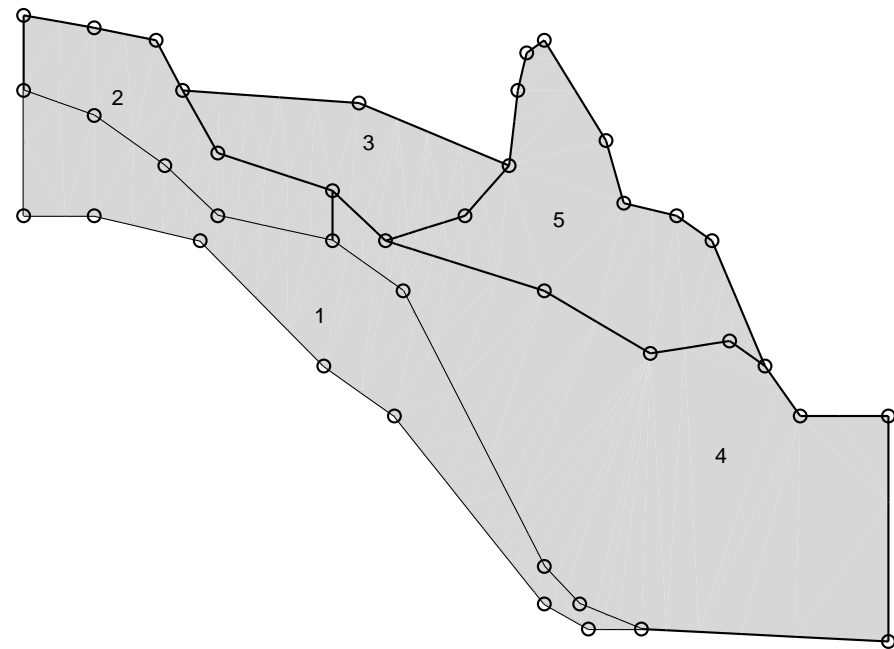
$m$	$k$	$\sigma = 0.1$	$\sigma = 0.2$
20	10	86	103
20	20	68	83
40	20	68	82
40	40	55	69
-	-	162	175

## (B) Coupled case - model problem

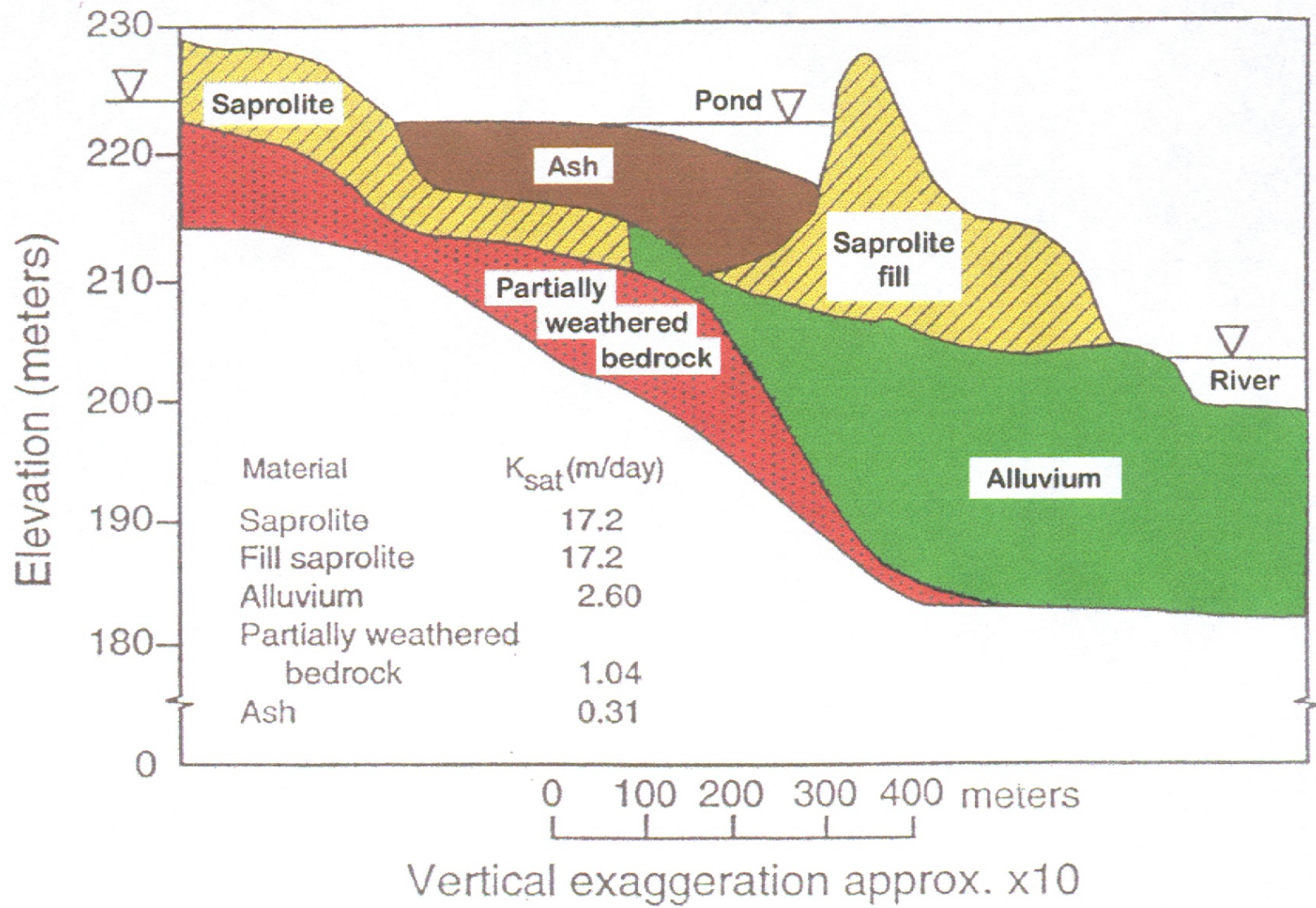
Fluid flow in a geological site in the south-eastern United States.  
(cf. Wheeler et al.)

### Deterministic discretization:

- 1961 elemental triangular mesh
- $RT_0$  triangular elements for  $u$
- $P_0$  triangular elements for  $p$







## Random field model:

$T^{-1}$  is a **lognormal random field**:

$$T^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = \exp(-G(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi})),$$

where  $G$  is a Gaussian field with mean  $\mu_G$  and Bessel covariance function

$$\text{Cov}_G(r) = \sigma_G^2 \left(\frac{r}{\ell}\right) K_1\left(\frac{r}{\ell}\right).$$

Truncated KL expansion:  $G(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = \mu_G + \sigma_G \sum_{m=1}^M \sqrt{\nu_m} g_m(\mathbf{x}) \xi_m$ .

Polynomial chaos expansion:

$$T^{-1}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\xi}) = \sum_{\alpha} T_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) H_{\alpha}(\boldsymbol{\xi})$$

$$T_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) = \mu_{T^{-1}} \frac{(-1)^{|\alpha|} \sigma_G^{|\alpha|}}{\sqrt{\alpha!}} \prod_{m=1}^M (\sqrt{\nu_m} g_m(\mathbf{x}))^{\alpha_m}$$

## Performance of mean-based preconditioner

MINRES iterations,  $\frac{\|r_k\|_{P^{-1}}}{\|r_0\|_{P^{-1}}} < 10^{-8}$ ,  $N_x = 4763$ ,  $N_\xi = 5, \dots, 84$ .

$\ell = 600$ ,  $M = 4$

$\ell = 400$ ,  $M = 6$

$\sigma_T/\mu_T$	$d = 1$	$d = 2$	$d = 3$	$\sigma_T/\mu_T$	$d = 1$	$d = 2$	$d = 3$
0.01	81	99	100	0.01	81	98	98
0.1	106	124	143	0.1	104	124	143
0.2	117	159	190	0.2	117	159	191
0.3	135	190	250	0.3	135	193	250

## Summary

- Large linear systems arise from the Stochastic Finite Element Method.
- The structure of the global Galerkin matrix is mainly determined by the coefficient random field and the stochastic shape functions.
- In case the Galerkin matrix can be decoupled, R-MINRES reduces the average iteration count when applied together with a weak preconditioner. Recycling is less efficient when using a stronger preconditioner for R-MINRES.
- When solving the fully-coupled system, mean-based preconditioners work for lognormal random fields when  $\sigma_T/\mu_T$  is not too large.