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Abstract

The Dakota (Design Analysis Kit for Optimization and Terascale Applications) toolkit provides a flexible and extensible interface between simulation codes and iterative analysis methods. Dakota contains algorithms for optimization with gradient and nongradient-based methods; uncertainty quantification with sampling, reliability, and stochastic expansion methods; parameter estimation with nonlinear least squares methods; and sensitivity/variance analysis with design of experiments and parameter study methods. These capabilities may be used on their own or as components within advanced strategies such as surrogate-based optimization, mixed integer nonlinear programming, or optimization under uncertainty. By employing object-oriented design to implement abstractions of the key components required for iterative systems analyses, the Dakota toolkit provides a flexible and extensible problem-solving environment for design and performance analysis of computational models on high performance computers.

This report serves as a reference manual for the commands specification for the Dakota software, providing input overviews, option descriptions, and example specifications.
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Chapter 1

Main Page

The Dakota (Design Analysis Kit for Optimization and Terascale Applications) toolkit provides a flexible, extensible interface between analysis codes and iteration methods.

Author


The Reference Manual documents all the input keywords that can appear in a Dakota input file to configure a Dakota study. Its organization closely mirrors the structure of dakota.input.summary. For more information see Dakota Input Specification. For information on software structure, refer to the Developers Manual [3], and for a tour of Dakota features and capabilities, including a tutorial, refer to the User’s Manual (Adams et al., 2010) [4].

1.1 How to Use this Manual

- To learn how to run Dakota from the command line, see Running Dakota
- To learn how to restart Dakota studies, see Restarting Dakota Studies
- To learn about the Dakota restart utility, see The Dakota Restart Utility

To find more information about a specific keyword

1. Use the search box at the top right (currently only finds keyword names)
2. Browse the Keywords tree on the left navigation pane
3. Look at the Dakota Input Specification
4. Navigate through the keyword pages, starting from the Keywords Area

To find more information about a Dakota related topic

1. Browse the Topics Area on the left navigation pane
2. Navigate through the topics pages, starting from the Topics Area

A small number of examples are included (see Sample Input Files) along with a description of the test problems (see Test Problems).

A bibliography for the Reference Manual is provided in Bibliographic References
Chapter 2

Running Dakota

The Dakota executable file is named dakota (dakota.exe on Windows) and is most commonly run from a terminal or command prompt.

2.1 Usage

If the dakota command is entered at the command prompt without any arguments, a usage message similar to the following appears:

usage: dakota [options and <args>]
   -help (Print this summary)
   -version (Print Dakota version number)
   -input <$val> (REQUIRED Dakota input file $val)
   -output <$val> (Redirect Dakota standard output to file $val)
   -error <$val> (Redirect Dakota standard error to file $val)
   -parser <$val> (Parsing technology: nidr[strict][:dumpfile])
   -no_input_echo (Do not echo Dakota input file)
   -check (Perform input checks)
   -pre_run [$val] (Perform pre-run (variables generation) phase)
   -run [$val] (Perform run (model evaluation) phase)
   -post_run [$val] (Perform post-run (final results) phase)
   -read_restart [$val] (Read an existing Dakota restart file $val)
   -stop_restart <$val> (Stop restart file processing at evaluation $val)
   -write_restart [$val] (Write a new Dakota restart file $val)

Of these command line options, only input is required, and the -input switch can be omitted if the input file name is the final item appearing on the command line (see Examples); all other command-line inputs are optional.

- help prints the usage message above.

- version prints version information for the executable.

- check invokes a dry-run mode in which the input file is processed and checked for errors, but the study is not performed.

- input provides the name of the Dakota input file.

- output and error options provide file names for redirection of the Dakota standard output (stdout) and standard error (stderr), respectively.
CHAPTER 2. RUNNING DAKOTA

- The parser option is for debugging and will not be further described here.
- By default, Dakota will echo the input file to the output stream, but no_input_echo can override this behavior.
- read_restart and write_restart commands provide the names of restart databases to read from and write to, respectively.
- stop_restart command limits the number of function evaluations read from the restart database (the default is all the evaluations) for those cases in which some evaluations were erroneous or corrupted. Restart management is an important technique for retaining data from expensive engineering applications.
- -pre_run, -run, and -post_run instruct Dakota to run one or more execution phases, excluding others. The commands must be followed by filenames as described in Execution Phases.

Command line switches can be abbreviated so long as the abbreviation is unique, so the following are valid, unambiguous specifications: -h, -v, -c, -i, -o, -e, -s, -w, -re, -pr, -ru, and -po and can be used in place of the longer forms of the command line options.

For information on restarting Dakota, see Restarting Dakota Studies and The Dakota Restart Utility.

2.2 Examples

To run Dakota with a particular input file, the following syntax can be used:

```
dakota -i dakota.in
```
or more simply

```
dakota dakota.in
```

This will echo the standard output (stdout) and standard error (stderr) messages to the terminal. To redirect stdout and stderr to separate files, the -o and -e command line options may be used:

```
dakota -i dakota.in -o dakota.out -e dakota.err
```
or

```
dakota -o dakota.out -e dakota.err dakota.in
```

Alternatively, any of a variety of Unix redirection variants can be used. Refer to[6] for more information on Unix redirection. The simplest of these redirects stdout to another file:

```
dakota dakota.in > dakota.out
```

2.3 Execution Phases

Dakota has three execution phases: pre-run, run, and post-run.

- pre-run can be used to generate variable sets
- run (core run) invokes the simulation to evaluate variables, producing responses
- post-run accepts variable/response sets and analyzes the results (for example, calculate correlations from a set of samples). Currently only two modes are supported and only for sampling, parameter study, and DACE methods:

1. pre-run only with optional tabular output of variables:
```
dakota -i dakota.in -pre_run ::myvariables.dat
```
2. post-run only with required tabular input of variables/responses:
```
dakota -i dakota.in -post_run myvarsresponses.dat::
```
2.4 Restarting Dakota Studies

Dakota is often used to solve problems that require repeatedly running computationally expensive simulation codes. In some cases you may want to repeat an optimization study, but with a tighter final convergence tolerance. This would be costly if the entire optimization analysis had to be repeated. Interruptions imposed by computer usage policies, power outages, and system failures could also result in costly delays. However, Dakota automatically records the variable and response data from all function evaluations so that new executions of Dakota can pick up where previous executions left off. The Dakota restart file (dakota.rst by default) archives the tabulated interface evaluations in a binary format. The primary restart commands at the command line are -read_restart, -write_restart, and -stop_restart.

2.4.1 Writing Restart Files

To write a restart file using a particular name, the -write_restart command line input (may be abbreviated as -w) is used:

```
dakota -i dakota.in -write_restart my_restart_file
```

If no -write_restart specification is used, then Dakota will still write a restart file, but using the default name dakota.rst instead of a user-specified name.

To turn restart recording off, the user may use the restart_file keyword, in the interface block. This can increase execution speed and reduce disk storage requirements, but at the expense of a loss in the ability to recover and continue a run that terminates prematurely. This option is not recommended when function evaluations are costly or prone to failure. Please note that using the deactivate restart_file specification will result in a zero length restart file with the default name dakota.rst, which can overwrite an exiting file.

2.4.2 Using Restart Files

To restart Dakota from a restart file, the -read_restart command line input (may be abbreviated as -r) is used:

```
dakota -i dakota.in -read_restart my_restart_file
```

If no -read_restart specification is used, then Dakota will not read restart information from any file (i.e., the default is no restart processing).

To read in only a portion of a restart file, the -stop_restart control (may be abbreviated as -s) is used to specify the number of entries to be read from the database. Note that this integer value corresponds to the restart record processing counter (as can be seen when using the print utility (see The Dakota Restart Utility) which may differ from the evaluation numbers used in the previous run if, for example, any duplicates were detected (since these duplicates are not recorded in the restart file). In the case of a -stop_restart specification, it is usually desirable to specify a new restart file using -write_restart so as to remove the records of erroneous or corrupted function evaluations. For example, to read in the first 50 evaluations from dakota.rst:

```
dakota -i dakota.in -r dakota.rst -s 50 -w dakota_new.rst
```

The dakota_new.rst file will contain the 50 processed evaluations from dakota.rst as well as any new evaluations. All evaluations following the 50th in dakota.rst have been removed from the latest restart record.

2.4.3 Appending to a Restart File

If the -write_restart and -read_restart specifications identify the same file (including the case where -write_restart is not specified and -read_restart identifies dakota.rst), then new evaluations will be appended to the existing restart file.
CHAPTER 2. RUNNING DAKOTA

2.4.4 Working with multiple Restart Files

If the \texttt{-write_restart} and \texttt{-read_restart} specifications identify different files, then the evaluations read from the file identified by \texttt{-read_restart} are first written to the \texttt{-write_restart} file. Any new evaluations are then appended to the \texttt{-write_restart} file. In this way, restart operations can be chained together indefinitely with the assurance that all of the relevant evaluations are present in the latest restart file.

2.4.5 How it Works

Dakota’s restart algorithm relies on its duplicate detection capabilities. Processing a restart file populates the list of function evaluations that have been performed. Then, when the study is restarted, it is started from the beginning (not a warm start) and many of the function evaluations requested by the iterator are intercepted by the duplicate detection code. This approach has the primary advantage of restoring the complete state of the iteration (including the ability to correctly detect subsequent duplicates) for all methods/iterators without the need for iterator-specific restart code. However, the possibility exists for numerical round-off error to cause a divergence between the evaluations performed in the previous and restarted studies. This has been rare in practice.

2.5 The Dakota Restart Utility

The Dakota restart utility program provides a variety of facilities for managing restart files from Dakota executions. The executable program name is \texttt{dakota_restart_util} and it has the following options, as shown by the usage message returned when executing the utility without any options:

Usage:

\begin{verbatim}
dakota_restart_util print <restart_file>
dakota_restart_util to_neutral <restart_file> <neutral_file>
dakota_restart_util from_neutral <neutral_file> <restart_file>
dakota_restart_util to_pdb <restart_file> <pdb_file>
dakota_restart_util to_tabular <restart_file> <text_file>
dakota_restart_util remove <double> <old_restart_file> <new_restart_file>
dakota_restart_util remove_ids <int_1> ... <int_n> <old_restart_file> <new_restart_file>
dakota_restart_util cat <restart_file_1> ... <restart_file_n> <new_restart_file>
\end{verbatim}

Several of these functions involve format conversions. In particular, the binary format used for restart files can be converted to ASCII text and printed to the screen, converted to and from a neutral file format, converted to a PDB format for use at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, or converted to a tabular format for importing into 3rd-party graphics programs. In addition, a restart file with corrupted data can be repaired by value or id, and multiple restart files can be combined to create a master database.

2.5.1 Print Command

The \texttt{print} option is useful to show contents of a restart file, since the binary format is not convenient for direct inspection. The restart data is printed in full precision, so that exact matching of points is possible for restarted runs or corrupted data removals. For example, the following command

\begin{verbatim}
dakota_restart_util print dakota.rst
\end{verbatim}

results in output similar to the following:

\begin{verbatim}
------------------------------------------
 Restart record 1 (evaluation id 1):
------------------------------------------
 Parameters:
  1.800000000000000e+00  intake_dia
  1.000000000000000e+00  flatness
\end{verbatim}
Active response data:
Active set vector = { 3 3 3 3 }
-2.4355973813420619e+00 obj_fn
-4.742848677140930e-01 nln_ineq_con_1
-4.5000000000000001e-01 nln_ineq_con_2
1.397114317029974e-01 nln_ineq_con_3

[ -4.3644298963447897e-01 1.4999999999999999e-01 ] obj_fn gradient
[ 1.3855136437818300e-01 0.0000000000000000e+00 ] nln_ineq_con_1 gradient
[ 0.0000000000000000e+00 1.4999999999999999e-01 ] nln_ineq_con_2 gradient
[ 0.0000000000000000e+00 -1.9485571585149869e-01 ] nln_ineq_con_3 gradient

--------------------------------------------------------
Restart record 2 (evaluation id 2):
--------------------------------------------------------
Parameters:
2.1640000000000001e+00 intake_dia
1.7169994018008317e+00 flatness

Active response data:
Active set vector = { 3 3 3 3 }
-2.4869127192988878e+00 obj_fn
6.925698799989843e-01 nln_ineq_con_1
-3.4245008972987528e-01 nln_ineq_con_2
8.7142207937157910e-03 nln_ineq_con_3

[ -4.3644298963447897e-01 1.4999999999999999e-01 ] obj_fn gradient
[ 2.9814239699997572e+01 0.0000000000000000e+00 ] nln_ineq_con_1 gradient
[ 0.0000000000000000e+00 1.4999999999999999e-01 ] nln_ineq_con_2 gradient
[ 0.0000000000000000e+00 -1.6998301774282701e-01 ] nln_ineq_con_3 gradient

...<snip>...

Restart file processing completed: 11 evaluations retrieved.

2.5.2 Neutral File Format
A Dakota restart file can be converted to a neutral file format using a command like the following:

dakota_restart_util to_neutral dakota.rst dakota.neu

which results in a report similar to the following:

Writing neutral file dakota.neu
Restart file processing completed: 11 evaluations retrieved.

Similarly, a neutral file can be returned to binary format using a command like the following:

dakota_restart_util from_neutral dakota.neu dakota.rst

which results in a report similar to the following:

Reading neutral file dakota.neu
Writing new restart file dakota.rst
Neutral file processing completed: 11 evaluations retrieved.

The contents of the generated neutral file are similar to the following (from the first two records for the Cylinder example in[4]).

6 7 2 1.8000000000000000e+00 intake_dia 1.0000000000000000e+00 flatness 0 0 0 0
NULL 4 2 1 0 3 3 3 1 2 obj_fn nln_ineq_con_1 nln_ineq_con_2 nln_ineq_con_3
-2.4355973813420619e+00 -8.742848677140930e-01 -4.5000000000000001e-01
1.397114317029974e-01 -8.3644298963447897e-01 1.4999999999999999e-01
1.3855136437818300e-01 0.0000000000000000e+00 0.0000000000000000e+00
1.4999999999999999e-01 0.0000000000000000e+00 -1.9485571585149869e-01 1
CHAPTER 2. RUNNING DAKOTA

6 7 2 2.1640000000000001e+00 intake_dia 1.7169994018008317e+00 flatness 0 0 0 0 NULL 4 2 1 0 3 3 3 3 1 2 obj_fn nln_ineq_con_1 nln_ineq_con_2 nln_ineq_con_3
-2.4869127192988878e+00 6.9256958799989843e-01 -3.4245008972987528e-01 8.7142207937157910e-03 -4.3644298963447897e-01 1.4999999999999999e-01
2.981423969997572e+01 0.0000000000000000e+00 0.0000000000000000e+00 1.4999999999999999e-01 0.0000000000000000e+00 -1.6998301774282701e-01 2

This format is not intended for direct viewing (print should be used for this purpose). Rather, the neutral file capability has been used in the past for managing portability of restart data across platforms (recent use of more portable binary formats has largely eliminated this need) or for advanced repair of restart records (in cases where the remove command was insufficient).

2.5.3 Tabular Format

Conversion of a binary restart file to a tabular format enables convenient import of this data into 3rd-party post-processing tools such as Matlab, TECplot, Excel, etc. This facility is nearly identical to the output activated by the tabular data keyword in the Dakota input file specification, but with two important differences:

1. No function evaluations are suppressed as they are with tabular data (i.e., any internal finite difference evaluations are included).

2. The conversion can be performed later, i.e., for Dakota runs executed previously.

An example command for converting a restart file to tabular format is:

dakota_restart_util to_tabular dakota.rst dakota.m

which results in a report similar to the following:

Writing tabular text file dakota.m
Restart file processing completed: 10 evaluations tabulated.

The contents of the generated tabular file are similar to the following (from the example in[4]). Note that while evaluations resulting from numerical derivative offsets would be reported (as described above), derivatives returned as part of the evaluations are not reported (since they do not readily fit within a compact tabular format):

%eval_id  x1  x2  obj_fn  nln_ineq_con_1  nln_ineq_con_2
1   0.9  1.1  0.0002  0.26  0.76
2   0.6433962264  0.6962264151  0.0246865569  0.06584549662  0.163031079
3   0.5310576935  0.5388046558  0.09360081618  0.01261994597  0.02478161031
4   0.612538853  0.6529854907  0.03703861037  0.0487111013  0.1201206246
5   0.5209215947  0.5259311717  0.1031862798  0.00833712202  0.01614279999
6   0.5661606434  0.5886884401  0.06405197568  0.02620365411  0.06345021064
7   0.5083173557  0.5129312956  0.1159458957  0.00337755086  0.006151042802
8   0.5001577143  0.5001800249  0.1249999428  2.485652461e-08  3.238746073e-08
9   0.50000000547  0.50000000598  0.1249999428  2.485652461e-08  3.238746073e-08
10  0.5  0.5  0.125  2.942091015e-15  3.60822483e-15

2.5.4 Concatenation of Multiple Restart Files

In some instances, it is useful to combine restart files into a single master function evaluation database. For example, when constructing a data fit surrogate model, data from previous studies can be pulled in and reused to create a combined data set for the surrogate fit. An example command for concatenating multiple restart files is:

dakota_restart_util cat dakota.rst.1 dakota.rst.2 dakota.rst.3 dakota.rst.all

which results in a report similar to the following:

Writing new restart file dakota.rst.all
dakota.rst.1 processing completed: 10 evaluations retrieved.
dakota.rst.2 processing completed: 110 evaluations retrieved.
dakota.rst.3 processing completed: 65 evaluations retrieved.

The dakota.rst.all database now contains 185 evaluations and can be read in for use in a subsequent Dakota study using the -read restart option to the dakota executable.
2.5. THE DAKOTA RESTART UTILITY

2.5.5 Removal of Corrupted Data

On occasion, a simulation or computer system failure may cause a corruption of the Dakota restart file. For example, a simulation crash may result in failure of a post-processor to retrieve meaningful data. If 0’s (or other erroneous data) are returned from the user’s analysis_driver, then this bad data will get recorded in the restart file. If there is a clear demarcation of where corruption initiated (typical in a process with feedback, such as gradient-based optimization), then use of the -stop_restart option for the dakota executable can be effective in continuing the study from the point immediately prior to the introduction of bad data. If, however, there are interspersed corruptions throughout the restart database (typical in a process without feedback, such as sampling), then the remove and remove_ids options of dakota_restart_util can be useful.

An example of the command syntax for the remove option is:

dakota_restart_util remove 2.e-04 dakota.rst dakota.rst.repaired

which results in a report similar to the following:

Writing new restart file dakota.rst.repaired
Restart repair completed: 65 evaluations retrieved, 2 removed, 63 saved.

where any evaluations in dakota.rst having an active response function value that matches 2.e-04 within machine precision are discarded when creating dakota.rst.repaired.

An example of the command syntax for the remove_ids option is:

dakota_restart_util remove_ids 12 15 23 44 57 dakota.rst dakota.rst.repaired

which results in a report similar to the following:

Writing new restart file dakota.rst.repaired
Restart repair completed: 65 evaluations retrieved, 5 removed, 60 saved.

where evaluation ids 12, 15, 23, 44, and 57 have been discarded when creating dakota.rst.repaired. An important detail is that, unlike the -stop_restart option which operates on restart record numbers, the remove_ids option operates on evaluation ids. Thus, removal is not necessarily based on the order of appearance in the restart file. This distinction is important when removing restart records for a run that contained either asynchronous or duplicate evaluations, since the restart insertion order and evaluation ids may not correspond in these cases (asynchronous evaluations have ids assigned in the order of job creation but are inserted in the restart file in the order of job completion, and duplicate evaluations are not recorded which introduces offsets between evaluation id and record number). This can also be important if removing records from a concatenated restart file, since the same evaluation id could appear more than once. In this case, all evaluation records with ids matching the remove_ids list will be removed.

If neither of these removal options is sufficient to handle a particular restart repair need, then the fallback position is to resort to direct editing of a neutral file to perform the necessary modifications.
Chapter 3

Test Problems

This page contains additional information about two test problems that are used in Dakota examples throughout the Dakota manuals Textbook and Rosenbrock.

Many of these examples are also used as code verification tests. The examples are run periodically and the results are checked against known solutions. This ensures that the algorithms are correctly implemented.

Additional test problems are described in the User’s Manual.

3.1 Textbook

The two-variable version of the “textbook” test problem provides a nonlinearly constrained optimization test case. It is formulated as:

$$\text{minimize } f = (x_1 - 1)^4 + (x_2 - 1)^4$$

subject to

$$g_1 = x_1^2 - \frac{x_2}{2} \leq 0$$

$$g_2 = x_2^2 - \frac{x_1}{2} \leq 0$$

$$0.5 \leq x_1 \leq 5.8$$

$$-2.9 \leq x_2 \leq 2.9$$

Contours of this test problem are illustrated in the next two figures.
Figure 3.1: Contours of the textbook problem on the [-3,4] x [-3,4] domain. The feasible region lies at the intersection of the two constraints \( g_1 \) (solid) and \( g_2 \) (dashed).

Figure 3.2: Contours of the textbook problem zoomed into an area containing the constrained optimum point \((x_1, x_2) = (0.5, 0.5)\). The feasible region lies at the intersection of the two constraints \( g_1 \) (solid) and \( g_2 \) (dashed).

For the textbook test problem, the unconstrained minimum occurs at \((x_1, x_2) = (1, 1)\). However, the inclusion of the constraints moves the minimum to \((x_1, x_2) = (0.5, 0.5)\). Equation \textit{textbookform} presents the 2-dimensional
form of the textbook problem. An extended formulation is stated as

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{minimize} & \quad f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - 1)^4 \\
\text{subject to} & \quad g_1 = \frac{x_1^2 - x_2}{2} \leq 0 \\
& \quad g_2 = \frac{x_2}{2} \leq 0 \\
& \quad 0.5 \leq x_1 \leq 5.8 \\
& \quad -2.9 \leq x_2 \leq 2.9
\end{align*}
\]

where \( n \) is the number of design variables. The objective function is designed to accommodate an arbitrary number of design variables in order to allow flexible testing of a variety of data sets. Contour plots for the \( n = 2 \) case have been shown previously.

For the optimization problem given in Equation tbe, the unconstrained solution (num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints set to zero) for two design variables is:

\[
\begin{align*}
x_1 &= 1.0 \\
x_2 &= 1.0
\end{align*}
\]

with

\[
\begin{align*}
f^* &= 0.0
\end{align*}
\]

The solution for the optimization problem constrained by \( g_1 \) (num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints set to one) is:

\[
\begin{align*}
x_1 &= 0.763 \\
x_2 &= 1.16
\end{align*}
\]

with

\[
\begin{align*}
f^* &= 0.00388 \\
g_1^* &= 0.0 \text{ (active)}
\end{align*}
\]

The solution for the optimization problem constrained by \( g_1 \) and \( g_2 \) (num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints set to two) is:

\[
\begin{align*}
x_1 &= 0.500 \\
x_2 &= 0.500
\end{align*}
\]

with

\[
\begin{align*}
f^* &= 0.125 \\
g_1^* &= 0.0 \text{ (active)} \\
g_2^* &= 0.0 \text{ (active)}
\end{align*}
\]

Note that as constraints are added, the design freedom is restricted (the additional constraints are active at the solution) and an increase in the optimal objective function is observed.
3.2 Rosenbrock

The Rosenbrock function \([34] \) "Gill et al, 1981" is a well known test problem for optimization algorithms. The standard formulation includes two design variables, and computes a single objective function. This problem can also be posed as a least-squares optimization problem with two residuals to be minimized because the objective function is the sum of squared terms.

**Standard Formulation**

The standard two-dimensional formulation can be stated as

\[
\text{minimize } f = 100(x_2 - x_1^2)^2 + (1 - x_1)^2 \tag{rosenstd}
\]

Surface and contour plots for this function are shown in the Dakota User’s Manual.

The optimal solution is:

\[
x_1 = 1.0 \\
x_2 = 1.0
\]

with

\[
f^* = 0.0
\]

**A Least-Squares Optimization Formulation**

This test problem may also be used to exercise least-squares solution methods by recasting the standard problem formulation into:

\[
\text{minimize } f = (f_1)^2 + (f_2)^2 \tag{rosenls}
\]

where

\[
f_1 = 10(x_2 - x_1^2) \tag{rosenr1}
\]

and

\[
f_2 = 1 - x_1 \tag{rosenr2}
\]

are residual terms.

The included analysis driver can handle both formulations. In the Dakota/test directory, the rosenbrock executable (compiled from Dakota_Source/test/rosenbrock.cpp) checks the number of response functions passed in the parameters file and returns either an objective function (as computed from Equation rosenstd) for use with optimization methods or two least squares terms (as computed from Equations rosenr1 - rosenr2) for use with least squares methods. Both cases support analytic gradients of the function set with respect to the design variables. See the User’s Manual for examples of both cases (search for Rosenbrock).
Chapter 4

Dakota Input Specification

4.1 Dakota NIDR

Valid Dakota input is dictated governed by the NIDR[29] input specification file, dakota.input.nspec. This file is used by a code generator to create parsing system components that are compiled into Dakota. Therefore, dakota.input.nspec and its derived summary, dakota.input.summary, are the definitive source for input syntax, capability options, and optional and required capability sub-parameters for any given Dakota version.

Beginning users may find dakota.input.summary overwhelming or confusing and will likely derive more benefit from adapting example input files to a particular problem. Some examples can be found here: Sample Input Files. Advanced users can master the many input specification possibilities by understanding the structure of the input specification file.

4.2 Input Spec Overview

Refer to the dakota.input.summary file, in Input Spec Summary, for current input specifications.

- The summary describes every keyword including:
  - Whether it is required or optional
  - Whether it takes ARGUMENTS (always required) Additional notes about ARGUMENTS can be found here: Specifying Arguments.
  - Whether it has an ALIAS, or synonym
  - Which additional keywords can be specified to change its behavior

- Additional details and descriptions are described in Keywords Area

- For additional details on NIDR specification logic and rules, refer to[29] (Gay, 2008).

4.2.1 Common Specification Mistakes

Spelling mistakes and omission of required parameters are the most common errors. Some causes of errors are more obscure:

- Documentation of new capability sometimes lags its availability in source and executables, especially stable releases. When parsing errors occur that the documentation cannot explain, reference to the particular input specification used in building the executable, which is installed alongside the executable, will often resolve the errors.
If you want to compare results with those obtained using an earlier version of Dakota (prior to 4.1), your input file for the earlier version must use backslashes to indicate continuation lines for Dakota keywords. For example, rather than

```bash
# Comment about the following "responses" keyword...
responses,
    objective_functions = 1
# Comment within keyword "responses"
analytic_gradients
# Another comment within keyword "responses"
no_hessians
```

you would need to write

```bash
# Comment about the following "responses" keyword...
responses, \
    objective_functions = 1 \ 
# Comment within keyword "responses" \
    analytic_gradients \ 
# Another comment within keyword "responses" \ 
    no_hessians
```

with no white space (blanks or tabs) after the `\` character.

In most cases, the NIDR system provides error messages that help the user isolate errors in Dakota input files.

### 4.2.2 Specifying Arguments

Some keywords, such as those providing bounds on variables, have an associated list of values or strings, referred to as arguments.

When the same value should be repeated several times in a row, you can use the notation \texttt{N=value} instead of repeating the value \texttt{N} times.

For example

```bash
lower_bounds -2.0 -2.0 -2.0
upper_bounds 2.0 2.0 2.0
```

could also be written

```bash
lower_bounds 3*-2.0
upper_bounds 3* 2.0
```

(with optional spaces around the `*`).

Another possible abbreviation is for sequences: \texttt{L:S:U} (with optional spaces around the `:`) is expanded to \texttt{L L+S L+2*S ... U}, and \texttt{L:U} (with no second colon) is treated as \texttt{L:1:U}.

For example, in one of the test examples distributed with Dakota (test case 2 of test/dakota_uq_textbook_sop_lhs.in),

```bash
histogram_point = 2
abscissas  = 50. 60. 70. 80. 90. 30. 40. 50. 60. 70.
counts = 10 20 30 20 10 10 20 30 20 10
```

could also be written

```bash
histogram_point = 2
abscissas  = 50 : 10 : 90 30 : 10 : 70
counts = 10:10:30 20 10 10:10:30 20 10
```
4.3. SAMPLE INPUT FILES

Count and sequence abbreviations can be used together. For example

```plaintext
response_levels =
  0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0
  0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0
```
can be abbreviated

```plaintext
response_levels = 2*0.0:0.1:1.0
```

4.3 Sample Input Files

A Dakota input file is a collection of fields from the dakota.input.summary file that describe the problem to be solved by Dakota. Several examples follow.

**Sample 1: Optimization**

The following sample input file shows single-method optimization of the Textbook Example (see Textbook) using DOT’s modified method of feasible directions. A similar file is available as `Dakota/examples/users/textbook_opt_conmin.in`.

```plaintext
# Dakota Input File: textbook_opt_conmin.in
environment
graphics
tabular_data tabular_data_file = 'textbook_opt_conmin.dat'
method
# dot_mmfd #DOT performs better but may not be available
conmin_mfd
  max_iterations = 50
  convergence_tolerance = 1e-4
variables
  continuous_design = 2
  initial_point 0.9 1.1
  upper_bounds 5.8 2.9
  lower_bounds 0.5 -2.9
  descriptors 'x1' 'x2'
interface
direct
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'
responses
  objective_functions = 1
  nonlinear_inequality_constraints = 2
  numerical_gradients
    method_source dakota
    interval_type central
    fd_gradient_step_size = 1.e-4
  no_hessians
```

**Sample 2: Least Squares (Calibration)**

The following sample input file shows a nonlinear least squares (calibration) solution of the Rosenbrock Example (see Rosenbrock) using the NL2SOL method. A similar file is available as `Dakota/examples/users/rosen_opt_nls.in`.

```plaintext
# Dakota Input File: rosen_opt_nls.in
environment
```
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Sample 3: Nondeterministic Analysis

The following sample input file shows Latin Hypercube Monte Carlo sampling using the Textbook Example (see Textbook). A similar file is available as Dakota/test/dakota_uq_textbook_lhs.in.

method,
  sampling,
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
      response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11 6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                        3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    sample_type lhs
variables,
  normal_uncertain = 2
    means = 248.89, 593.33
    std_deviations = 12.4, 29.7
    descriptors = 'TF1n' 'TF2n'
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 199.3, 474.63
    upper_bounds = 298.5, 712.
    descriptors = 'TF1u' 'TF2u'
  weibull_uncertain = 2
    alphas = 12., 30.
    betas = 250., 590.
    descriptors = 'TF1w' 'TF2w'
  histogram_bin_uncertain = 2
    num_pairs = 3 4
    abscissas = 5 8 10 .1 .2 .3 .4
    counts = 17 21 0 12 24 12 0
    descriptors = 'TF1h' 'TF2h'
  histogram_point_uncertain = 1
    num_pairs = 2
    abscissas = 3 4
4.3. SAMPLE INPUT FILES

```
counts = 1 1
descriptors = 'TF3h'

interface,
  fork async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses,
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

Sample 4: Parameter Study
The following sample input file shows a 1-D vector parameter study using the Textbook Example (see Textbook). It makes use of the default environment and model specifications, so they can be omitted. A similar file is available in the test directory as Dakota/examples/users/rosen_ps_vector.in.

# Dakota Input File: rosen_ps_vector.in
environment
graphics
  tabular_data
    tabular_data_file = 'rosen_ps_vector.dat'

method
  vector_parameter_study
    final_point = 1.1 1.3
    num_steps = 10

variables
  continuous_design = 2
    initial_point = -0.3 0.2
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  analysis_driver = 'rosenbrock'
direct

responses
  objective_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

Sample 5: Hybrid Strategy
The following sample input file shows a hybrid environment using three methods. It employs a genetic algorithm, pattern search, and full Newton gradient-based optimization in succession to solve the Textbook Example (see Textbook). A similar file is available as Dakota/examples/users/textbook_hybrid_strat.in.

environment
  graphics
    hybrid sequential
      method_list = 'PS' 'PS2' 'NLP'

method
  id_method = 'PS'
  model_pointer = 'M1'
  coliny_pattern_search stochastic
    seed = 1234
    initial_delta = 0.1
    threshold_delta = 1.e-4
    solution_accuracy = 1.e-10
```
exploratory_moves basic_pattern
#verbose output

method
id_method = 'PS2'
model_pointer = 'M1'
max_function_evaluations = 10
coliny_pattern_search stochastic
seed = 1234
initial_delta = 0.1
threshold_delta = 1.e-4
solution_accuracy = 1.e-10
exploratory_moves basic_pattern
#verbose output

method
id_method = 'NLP'
model_pointer = 'M2'
optpp_newton
gradient_tolerance = 1.e-12
convergence_tolerance = 1.e-15
#verbose output

model
id_model = 'M1'
single
variables_pointer = 'V1'
interface_pointer = 'I1'
responses_pointer = 'R1'

model
id_model = 'M2'
single
variables_pointer = 'V1'
interface_pointer = 'I1'
responses_pointer = 'R2'

variables
id_variables = 'V1'
continuous_design = 2
initial_point 0.6 0.7
upper_bounds 5.8 2.9
lower_bounds 0.5 -2.9
descriptors 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
direct
analysis_driver= 'text_book'

responses
id_responses = 'R1'
objective_functions = 1
no_gradients
no_hessians

responses
id_responses = 'R2'
objective_functions = 1
analytic_gradients
analytic_hessians
Additional example input files, as well as the corresponding output and graphics, are provided in the Tutorial chapter of the Users Manual [4] (Adams et al., 2010).

4.4 Input Spec Summary

This file is derived automatically from dakota.input.nspec, which is used in the generation of parser system files that are compiled into the Dakota executable. Therefore, these files are the definitive source for input syntax, capability options, and associated data inputs. Refer to the Developers Manual information on how to modify the input specification and propagate the changes through the parsing system.

Key features of the input specification and the associated user input files include:

- In the input specification, required individual specifications simply appear, optional individual and group specifications are enclosed in [], required group specifications are enclosed in (), and either-or relationships are denoted by the | symbol. These symbols only appear in dakota.input.nspec; they must not appear in actual user input files.

- **Keyword specifications** (i.e., environment, method, model, variables, interface, and responses) begin with the keyword possibly preceded by white space (blanks, tabs, and newlines) both in the input specifications and in user input files. For readability, keyword specifications may be spread across several lines. Earlier versions of Dakota (prior to 4.1) required a backslash character (\) at the ends of intermediate lines of a keyword. While such backslashes are still accepted, they are no longer required.

- Some of the keyword components within the input specification indicate that the user must supply INTEGER, REAL, STRING, INTEGERLIST, REALLIST, or STRINGLIST data as part of the specification. In a user input file, the "=" is optional, data in a LIST can be separated by commas or whitespace, and the STRING data are enclosed in single or double quotes (e.g., 'text_book' or "text_book").

- In user input files, input is largely order-independent (except for entries in lists of data), case insensitive, and white-space insensitive. Although the order of input shown in the Sample Input Files generally follows the order of options in the input specification, this is not required.

- In user input files, specifications may be abbreviated so long as the abbreviation is unique. For example, the npsol_sqp specification within the method keyword could be abbreviated as npsol, but dot_sqp should not be abbreviated as dot since this would be ambiguous with other DOT method specifications.

- In both the input specification and user input files, comments are preceded by #.

- **ALIAS** refers to synonymous keywords, which often exist for backwards compatibility. Users are encouraged to use the most current keyword.

    KEYWORD01 environment
    [ check ]
    [ output_file STRING ]
    [ error_file STRING ]
    [ read_restart STRING ]
    [ stop_restart INTEGER >= 0 ]
    [ write_restart STRING ]
    [ pre_run ]
    [ input STRING ]
    [ output STRING ]
    [ run ]
    [ input STRING ]
[ output STRING ]
]
[ post_run
[ input STRING ]
[ output STRING ]
]
[ graphics ]
[ tabular_data ALIAS tabular_graphics_data
[ tabular_data_file ALIAS tabular_graphics_file STRING ]
]
[ output_precision INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ results_output
[ results_output_file STRING ]
]
[ top_method_pointer ALIAS method_pointer STRING ]

KEYWORD12 method
[ id_method STRING ]
[ output
debug
| verbose
| normal
| quiet
| silent
]
[ max_iterations INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ max_function_evaluations INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ speculative ]
[ convergence_tolerance REAL ]
[ constraint_tolerance REAL ]
[ scaling ]
[ final_solutions INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ hybrid
( sequential ALIAS uncoupled
  [ method_name_list STRINGLIST
    [ model_pointer_list STRING ]
  ]
  ]
)
[ embedded ALIAS coupled
  [ global_method_name STRING
    [ global_model_pointer STRING ]
  ]
  ]
[ local_method_name STRING
  [ local_model_pointer STRING ]
  ]
[ local_method_pointer STRING
  [ local_search_probability REAL ]
  ]
]
[ collaborative
  [ method_name_list STRINGLIST
    [ model_pointer_list STRING ]
  ]
  ]
[ iterator_servers INTEGER > 0 ]
[ iterator_scheduling
master
| peer
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

| [ processors_per_iterator INTEGER > 0 ] |
| ( multi_start |
| ( method_name STRING |
| [ model_pointer STRING ] |
| ) |
| method_pointer STRING |
| random_starts INTEGER |
| [ seed INTEGER ] |
| ) |
| [ starting_points REALLIST ] |
| [ iterator_servers INTEGER > 0 ] |
| [ iterator_scheduling |
| master |
| peer |
| [ processors_per_iterator INTEGER > 0 ] |
| ) |
| ( pareto_set |
| ( method_name ALIAS opt_method_name STRING |
| [ model_pointer ALIAS opt_model_pointer STRING ] |
| ) |
| method_pointer ALIAS opt_method_pointer STRING |
| random_weight_sets INTEGER |
| [ seed INTEGER ] |
| ) |
| [ weight_sets ALIAS multi_objective_weight_sets REALLIST ] |
| [ iterator_servers INTEGER > 0 ] |
| [ iterator_scheduling |
| master |
| peer |
| [ processors_per_iterator INTEGER > 0 ] |
| ) |
| ( surrogate_based_local |
| method_pointer ALIAS approx_method_pointer STRING |
| [ method_name ALIAS approx_method_name STRING |
| model_pointer ALIAS approx_model_pointer STRING |
| soft_convergence_limit INTEGER ] |
| [ truth_surrogate_bypass ] |
| [ trust_region |
| [ initial_size REAL ] |
| [ minimum_size REAL ] |
| [ contract_threshold REAL ] |
| [ expand_threshold REAL ] |
| [ contraction_factor REAL ] |
| [ expansion_factor REAL ] |
| ) |
| [ approx_subproblem |
| original_primary |
| [ single_objective |
| augmented_lagrangian_objective |
| lagrangian_objective |
| original_constraints |
| linearized_constraints |
| no_constraints |
| ) |
| [ merit_function |
penalty_merit
| adaptive_penalty_merit
| lagrangian_merit
| augmented_lagrangian_merit
|
| acceptance_logic
| tr_ratio
| filter
|
| constraint_relax
| homotopy
|
)
|
| surrogate_based_global
| method_pointer ALIAS approx_method_pointer STRING
| method_name ALIAS approx_method_name STRING
| model_pointer ALIAS approx_model_pointer STRING
| replace_points |
|
| surr \_
| dot_frcg
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALIST
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALIST
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST
| linear_inequality_scales REALIST
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST
| linear_inequality_targets REALIST
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST
| linear_inequality_scales REALIST
| model_pointer STRING |
|
| dot_mmfd
| dot_bfgs
| dot_slp
| dot_sqp
|
| dot_frcg
| mmfd
| bfgs
| slp
| sqp
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALIST
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALIST
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST
| linear_inequality_scales REALIST
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST
| linear_inequality_targets REALIST
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST
| linear_inequality_scales REALIST
| model_pointer STRING |
|
| conmin_frcg
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALIST
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALIST
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST
| linear_inequality_scales REALIST
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST
| linear_inequality_targets REALIST
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST
| linear_inequality_scales REALIST
| model_pointer STRING |
}
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```
| linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_equality_targets REALLIST |
| linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_equality_scales REALLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |
|
| conmin_mfd |
| conmin_frcg |
| mfd |
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_inequality_scales REALLIST |
| linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_equality_targets REALLIST |
| linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_equality_scales REALLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |
|
| dl_solver STRING |
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_inequality_scales REALLIST |
| linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_equality_targets REALLIST |
| linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_equality_scales REALLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |
|
| npsol_sqp |
| verify_level INTEGER |
| function_precision REAL |
| linesearch_tolerance REAL |
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_inequality_scales REALLIST |
| linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_equality_targets REALLIST |
| linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST |
| linear_equality_scales REALLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |
|
| nlssol_sqp |
| stanford |
| npsol |
| nlssol |
| verify_level INTEGER |
| function_precision REAL |
| linesearch_tolerance REAL |
| linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST |
| linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST |
```
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[linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
[linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST ]
[linear_inequality_targets REALIST ]
[linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
[model_pointer STRING ]
)

| nlpql_sqp
[ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_targets REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALIST ]
[model_pointer STRING ]
)

| optpp_cg
[ max_step REAL ]
[ gradient_tolerance REAL ]
[ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_targets REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALIST ]
[model_pointer STRING ]
)

| optpp_q_newton
| optpp_fd_newton
| optpp_q_newton
| optpp_newton
| search_method
| value_based_line_search
| gradient_based_line_search
| trust_region
| tr_pds
| merit_function
| el_bakry
| argez_tapia
| van_shanno
| steplength_to_boundary REAL ]
[ centering_parameter REAL ]
[ max_step REAL ]
[ gradient_tolerance REAL ]
[ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_targets REALIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALIST ]

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| [ linear_equality_targets REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_scales REALLIST ] |
| [ model_pointer STRING ] |
|
| ( optpp_pds |
| [ search_scheme_size INTEGER ] |
| [ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_targets REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_scales REALLIST ] |
| [ model_pointer STRING ] |
|
| ( asynch_pattern_search ALIAS coliny_apps |
| [ initial_delta REAL ] |
| [ contraction_factor REAL ] |
| [ threshold_delta REAL ] |
| [ solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL ] |
| [ synchronization |
| blocking |
| nonblocking |
| ] |
| [ merit_function |
| merit_max |
| [ merit_max_smooth |
| merit1 |
| [ merit1_smooth |
| merit2 |
| [ merit2_smooth |
| merit2_squared |
| ] |
| [ constraint_penalty REAL ] |
| [ smoothing_factor REAL ] |
| [ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_targets REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST ] |
| [ linear_equality_scales REALLIST ] |
| [ model_pointer STRING ] |
|
| ( mesh_adaptive_search |
| [ function_precision REAL ] |
| [ seed INTEGER > 0 ] |
| [ history_file STRING ] |
| [ display_format STRING ] |
| [ variable_neighborhood_search REAL ] |
| [ display_all_evaluations ] |
| [ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST ] |
| [ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST ] |

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[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
[ linear_equality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ]
[ linear_equality_targets REALLIST ]
[ linear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_equality_scales REALLIST ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
)
)

| moga |
| fitness_type |
| layer_rank |
| domination_count |
)

| replacement_type |
| elitist |
| roulette_wheel |
| unique_roulette_wheel |
|
| below_limit REAL |
| { shrinkage_fraction ALIAS shrinkage_percentage REAL } |
)
|

| niching_type |
| radial REALLIST |
| distance REALLIST |
|
| { max_designs REALLIST |
| { num_designs INTEGER >= 2 } |
)
|

| convergence_type |
| metric_tracker |
| { percent_change REAL } |
| { num_generations INTEGER >= 0 } |
|

| postprocessor_type |
| orthogonal_distance REALLIST |
|
| population_size INTEGER >= 0 |
| log_file STRING |
| print_each_pop |
|
| initialization_type |
| simple_random |
| unique_random |
| flat_file STRING |
|
| crossover_type |
| multi_point_binary INTEGER |
| multi_point_parameterized_binary INTEGER |
| multi_point_real INTEGER |
|
| { shuffle_random |
| { num_parents INTEGER > 0 } |
| { num_offspring INTEGER > 0 } |
|
| crossover_rate REAL |
|
| mutation_type |
| bit_random |
| replace_uniform |
|
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```plaintext
{ offset_normal
  | offset_cauchy
  | offset_uniform
  | mutation_scale REAL }
}
{ mutation_rate REAL }
|
{ seed INTEGER > 0 }
{ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST }
{ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST }
{ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST }
{ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST }
{ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST }
{ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST }
{ linear_inequality_targets REALLIST }
{ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST }
{ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST }
{ model_pointer STRING }
|
{ soga
  | fitness_type
  | merit_function
  | constraint_penalty REAL }
}
{ replacement_type
  | elitist
  | favor_feasible
  | roulette_wheel
  | unique_roulette_wheel }
|
{ convergence_type
  | best_fitness_tracker
  | percent_change REAL }
  | num_generations INTEGER >= 0 }
}
{ average_fitness_tracker
  | percent_change REAL }
  | num_generations INTEGER >= 0 }
}
|
{ population_size INTEGER >= 0 }
{ log_file STRING }
{ print_each_pop }
{ initialization_type
  | simple_random
  | unique_random
  | flat_file STRING }
|
{ crossover_type
  | multi_point_binary INTEGER
  | multi_point_parameterized_binary INTEGER
  | multi_point_real INTEGER }
|
{ shuffle_random
  | num_parents INTEGER > 0 }
  | num_offspring INTEGER > 0 }
}
{ crossover_rate REAL }
|
{ mutation_type
```
CHAPTER 4. DAKOTA INPUT SPECIFICATION

bit_random
| replace_uniform
| { offset_normal
| offset_cauchy
| offset_uniform
[ mutation_scale REAL ]
})
[ mutation_rate REAL ]
]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_constraint_matrix REALLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_targets REALLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ linear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
|
{ coliny_pattern_search
[ constant_penalty ]
[ no_expansion ]
[ expand_after_success INTEGER ]
[ pattern_basis
coordinate
| simplex
]
[ stochastic ]
[ total_pattern_size INTEGER ]
[ exploratory_moves
multi_step
| adaptive_pattern
| basic_pattern
]
[ synchronization
blocking
| nonblocking
]
[ contraction_factor REAL ]
[ constraint_penalty REAL ]
[ initial_delta REAL ]
[ threshold_delta REAL ]
[ solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ show_misc_options ]
[ misc_options STRINGLIST ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
|
{ coliny_solis_wets
[ contract_after_failure INTEGER ]
[ no_expansion ]
[ expand_after_success INTEGER ]
[ constant_penalty ]
[ contraction_factor REAL ]
[ constraint_penalty REAL ]
[ initial_delta REAL ]
[ threshold_delta REAL ]
}
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```plaintext
[ solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ show_m misc_options ]
[ misc_options STRINGLIST ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)

| coliny_cobyla |
| [ initial_delta REAL ] |
| [ threshold_delta REAL ] |
| [ solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL ] |
| [ seed INTEGER > 0 ] |
| [ show_m misc_options ] |
| [ misc_options STRINGLIST ] |
| [ model_pointer STRING ] |
|
| coliny_direct |
| [ division |
| major_dimension |
| | all_dimensions |
| ] |
| [ global_balance_parameter REAL ] |
| [ local_balance_parameter REAL ] |
| [ max_boxsize_limit REAL ] |
| [ min_boxsize_limit REAL ] |
| [ constraint_penalty REAL ] |
| [ solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL ] |
| [ seed INTEGER > 0 ] |
| [ show_m misc_options ] |
| [ misc_options STRINGLIST ] |
| [ model_pointer STRING ] |
|
| coliny_ea |
| [ population_size INTEGER > 0 ] |
| [ initialization_type |
| simple_random |
| | unique_random |
| | flat_file STRING |
| ] |
| [ fitness_type |
| linear_rank |
| | merit_function |
| ] |
| [ replacement_type |
| random INTEGER |
| | chc INTEGER |
| | elitist INTEGER |
| | new_solutions_generated INTEGER ] |
| ] |
| [ crossover_rate REAL ] |
| [ crossover_type |
| two_point |
| | blend |
| | uniform |
| ] |
| [ mutation_rate REAL ] |
| [ mutation_type |
| replace_uniform |
| ] |
| { offset_normal |
```
 CHAPTER 4. DAKOTA INPUT SPECIFICATION

| offset_cauchy |
| offset_uniform |
| mutation_scale REAL |
| mutation_range INTEGER |
| non_adaptive |
| constraint_penalty REAL |
| solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL |
| seed INTEGER > 0 |
| show_mist_options |
| misc_options STRINGLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |

| coliny_beta |
| beta_solver_name STRING |
| solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL |
| seed INTEGER > 0 |
| show_mist_options |
| misc_options STRINGLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |

| nl2sol |
| function_precision REAL |
| absolute_conv_tol REAL |
| x_conv_tol REAL |
| singular_conv_tol REAL |
| singular_radius REAL |
| false_conv_tol REAL |
| initial_trust_radius REAL |
| covariance INTEGER |
| regression_diagnostics |
| model_pointer STRING |

| nonlinear_cg |
| misc_options STRINGLIST |
| model_pointer STRING |

| ncsu_direct |
| solution_target ALIAS solution_accuracy REAL |
| min_boxsize_limit REAL |
| volume_boxsize_limit REAL |
| model_pointer STRING |

| genie_opt_darts |
| genie_direct |
| seed INTEGER > 0 |
| model_pointer STRING |

| efficient_global |
| gaussian_process ALIAS kriging |
| surfpack |
| dakota |
| use_derivatives |
| import_points_file STRING |
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

[ annotated
| freeform ]
[ active_only ]
]
[ export_points_file STRING
[ annotated
| freeform ]
]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
]

{ polynomial_chaos ALIAS nond_polynomial_chaos
[ p_refinement
uniform
]
[ dimension_adaptive
sobol
| decay
| generalized
]
]
[ askey
| wiener ]
[ quadrature_order INTEGERLIST
[ dimension_preference REALLIST ]
[ nested
| non_nested ]
]

[ sparse_grid_level INTEGERLIST
[ restricted
| unrestricted ]
[ dimension_preference REALLIST ]
[ nested
| non_nested ]
]
[ cubature_integrand INTEGER
]
[ expansion_order INTEGERLIST
[ dimension_preference REALLIST ]
[ basis_type
tensor_product
| total_order
| ( advanced
[ advancements INTEGER ]
[ soft_convergence_limit INTEGER ]
)
]
[ collocation_points INTEGERLIST
collocation_ratio REAL
[ ratio_order REAL ]
[ ( least_squares
[ svd
| equality_constrained ]
)
]
[ orthogonal_matching_pursuit ALIAS omp
[ noise_tolerance REALLIST ]
]
[ basis_pursuit ALIAS bp
]
| ( basis_pursuit_denoising ALIAS bpdn
| noise_tolerance REALIST ]
|)
| ( least_angle_regression ALIAS lars
| noise_tolerance REALIST ]
|)
| ( least_absolute_shrinkage ALIAS lasso
| noise_tolerance REALIST ]
| l2_penalty REAL ]
| cross_validation ]
| use_derivatives ]
| tensor_grid ]
| reuse_points ALIAS reuse_samples ]
|
| expansion_samples INTEGERLIST
| reuse_points ALIAS reuse_samples ]
| incremental_lhs ]
| import_points_file STRING
| annotated ]
| freeform ]
| active_only ]
|
| orthogonal_least_interpolation ALIAS least_interpolation ALIAS oli
| collocation_points INTEGERLIST
| cross_validation ]
| tensor_grid INTEGERLIST ]
| reuse_points ALIAS reuse_samples ]
| import_points_file STRING
| annotated ]
| freeform ]
| active_only ]
|
| import_expansion_file STRING
| variance_based_decomp
| interaction_order INTEGER > 0 ]
| drop_tolerance REAL ]
| diagonal_covariance ]
| full_covariance ]
| normalized ]
| sample_type
| lhs
| random ]
| probability_refinement ALIAS sample_refinement
| import
| adapt_import
| mm_adapt_import
| refinement_samples INTEGER ]
|)
| export_points_file STRING
| annotated ]
| freeform ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

[ export_expansion_file STRING ]
[ fixed_seed ]
[ reliability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
[ response_levels REALLIST
  [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
[ compute
  probabilities
  | reliabilities
  | gen_reliabilities
  [ system
    series
    | parallel
  ]
]
[ distribution
  cumulative
  | complementary
]
[ probability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
[ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
[ rng
  mt19937
  | rnum2
]
[ samples INTEGER ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]

{ stoch_collocation ALIAS nond_stoch_collocation
  [ { p_refinement
      uniform
      |
      ( dimension_adaptive
        sobol
        | generalized
      )
    }
  ]

  { h_refinement
    uniform
    |
    ( dimension_adaptive
      sobol
      | generalized
    )
    | local_adaptive
  ]
  [ piecewise
    | askey
    | wiener ]
  quadrature_order INTEGERLIST
}
[ sparse_grid_level INTEGERLIST ]
[ restricted
| unrestricted ]
[ nodal
| hierarchical ]
)
[ dimension_preference REALIST ]
[ use_derivatives ]
[ nested
| non_nested ]
[ variance_based_decomp
  [ interaction_order INTEGER > 0 ]
  [ drop_tolerance REAL ]
]
[ diagonal_covariance
| full_covariance ]
[ sample_type
  lhs
  random
]
[ probability_refinement ALIAS sample_refinement
  import
  | adapt_import
  | mm_adapt_import
  [ refinement_samples INTEGER ]
]
[ export_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
  | freeform ]
]
[ fixed_seed ]
[ reliability_levels REALIST
  [ num_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ response_levels REALIST
  [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  [ compute
    probabilities
    | reliabilities
    | gen_reliabilities
    [ system
      series
      | parallel
    ]
  ]
]
[ distribution
  cumulative
  | complementary
]
[ probability_levels REALIST
  [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ gen_reliability_levels REALIST
  [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ rng
  mt19937
  | rnum2
]
[ samples INTEGER ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```plaintext
( sampling ALIAS nond_sampling
  [ sample_type
    random
    | lhs
    |
    [ incremental_lhs
      | incremental_random
      previous_samples INTEGER
    ]
  ]
  [ variance_based_decomp
    [ drop_tolerance REAL ]
  ]
  [ backfill ]
  [ fixed_seed ]
  [ reliability_levels REALLIST
    [ num_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  ]
  [ response_levels REALLIST
    [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
    [ compute
      probabilities
      | reliabilities
      | gen_reliabilities
      [ system
        series
      | parallel
    ]
  ]
  [ distribution
    cumulative
    | complementary
  ]
  [ probability_levels REALLIST
    [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  ]
  [ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
    [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  ]
  [ rng
    mt19937
    | rnum2
  ]
  [ samples INTEGER ]
  [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
  [ model_pointer STRING ]
)

( importance_sampling ALIAS nond_importance_sampling
import
  [ adapt_import
    | mm_adapt_import
    [ refinement_samples INTEGER ]
    response_levels REALLIST
    [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
    [ compute
      probabilities
      | gen_reliabilities
      [ system
        series
      | parallel
    ]
  ]
```
CHAPTER 4. DAKOTA INPUT SPECIFICATION

series
| parallel
|

[ distribution
 cumulative
 | complementary
 |
 [ probability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
 [ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
 [ rng
  mt19937
  | rnum2
  ]
 [ samples INTEGER ]
 [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
 [ model_pointer STRING ]
 ]

{ gpais ALIAS gaussian_process_adaptive_importance_sampling
 [ emulator_samples INTEGER ]
 [ import_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
   | freeform ]
  [ active_only ] ]
 [ export_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
   | freeform ]
 ]
 [ response_levels REALLIST
  [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  [ compute
   probabilities
   | gen_reliabilities
   [ system
    series
    | parallel
   ] ]
 ]

[ distribution
 cumulative
 | complementary
 |
 [ probability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
 [ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
  [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ] ]
 [ rng
  mt19937
  | rnum2
  ]
 [ samples INTEGER ]
 [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

- model_pointer STRING
- adaptive_sampling ALIAS nond_adaptive_sampling
- emulator_samples INTEGER
- fitness_metric
  - predicted_variance
  - distance
  - gradient
- batch_selection
  - naive
  - distance_penalty
  - topology
  - constant_liar
- batch_size INTEGER
- import_points_file STRING
  - annotated
  - freeform
  - active_only
- export_points_file STRING
  - annotated
  - freeform
- response_levels REALLIST
  - num_response_levels INTEGERLIST
- compute
  - probabilities
  - gen_reliabilities
  - system
    - series
    - parallel
- misc_options STRINGLIST
- distribution
  - cumulative
  - complementary
- probability_levels REALLIST
  - num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST
- gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
  - num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST
- rng
  - mt19937
  - rnum2
- samples INTEGER
- seed INTEGER > 0
- model_pointer STRING
- pof_darts ALIAS nond_pof_darts
- lipschitz
  - local
  - global
[ emulator
gaussian_process
|
  voronoi_surrogate
    [ surrogate_order INTEGER ]
  ]
]
[ emulator_samples INTEGER ]
[ response_levels REALLIST ]
  [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  [ compute_probabilities
    [ gen_reliabilities
      [ system
        series
      ]
    ]
  ]
[ distribution
cumulative
  | complementary
]
[ probability_levels REALLIST ]
  [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
[ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST ]
  [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
[ rng
  mt19937
  | rnum2
]
[ samples INTEGER ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
]

{ efficient_subspace ALIAS nond_efficient_subspace
  [ emulator_samples INTEGER ]
  [ batch_size INTEGER ]
  [ distribution
cumulative
    | complementary
  ]
  [ probability_levels REALLIST ]
    [ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  [ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST ]
    [ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  [ rng
    mt19937
    | rnum2
  ]
  [ samples INTEGER ]
  [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
  [ model_pointer STRING ]
}

{ global_evidence ALIAS nond_global_evidence
  [ sbo
  ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```plaintext
| ego |
| gaussian_process ALIAS kriging |
| surfpack |
| dakota |
| use_derivatives |
| import_points_file STRING |
| annotated |
| freeform |
| active_only |
| export_points_file STRING |
| annotated |
| freeform |
| ea |

response_levels REALLIST
| num_response_levels INTEGERLIST |
| compute probabilities |
| gen_reliabilities |
| system series |
| parallel |

distribution cumulative |
| complementary |

probability_levels REALLIST
| num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST |
| gen_reliability_levels REALLIST |
| num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST |
| rng |
| mt19937 |
| rnum2 |
| samples INTEGER |
| seed INTEGER > 0 |
| model_pointer STRING |

| global_interval_est ALIAS nond_global_interval_est |
| sbo |
| ego |
| gaussian_process ALIAS kriging |
| surfpack |
| dakota |
| use_derivatives |
| import_points_file STRING |
| annotated |
| freeform |
| active_only |
| export_points_file STRING |
```
[ annotated
  | freeform ]
]
]
ea
| lhs ]
rng
  | mt19937
  | rnum2
  |
samples INTEGER ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
]
bayes_calibration ALIAS nond_bayes_calibration
( queso
  | emulator
    | gaussian_process ALIAS kriging
  | surfpack
    | dakota
  | emulator_samples INTEGER ]
  | import_points_file STRING
    | annotated
    | freeform ]
    | active_only ]
  |
  | export_points_file STRING
    | annotated
    | freeform ]
  |
  | pce
    | sparse_grid_level INTEGERLIST ]
  |
  | sc
    | sparse_grid_level INTEGERLIST ]
  |
  | mcmc_type
    | dram
    | rejection
      | standard
    | delayed
    |
    | metropolis
      | hastings
    | adaptive
    |
  |
  | multilevel
  |
  | rng
    | mt19937
    | rnum2
  |
  | proposal_covariance_scale REALLIST ]
)
]
gpmsa
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

emulator_samples INTEGER
[ import_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
    | freeform ]
  [ active_only ]
]
[ export_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
    | freeform ]
]
[ mcmc_type
  ( dram
    [ rejection
      standard
      | delayed
    ]
    [ metropolis
      hastings
      | adaptive
    ]
  )
  [ multilevel
  ]
][ rng
  mt19937
  | rnum2
]
[ proposal_covariance_scale REALIST ]
)
)
)
[ dream
  [ chains INTEGER >= 3 ]
  [ num_cr INTEGER >= 1 ]
  [ crossover_chain_pairs INTEGER >= 0 ]
  [ gr_threshold REAL > 0.0 ]
  [ jump_step INTEGER >= 0 ]
  [ emulator
    ( gaussian_process ALIAS kriging
      surfpack
      | dakota
    [ emulator_samples INTEGER ]
    [ import_points_file STRING
      [ annotated
        | freeform ]
      [ active_only ]
    ]
    [ export_points_file STRING
      [ annotated
        | freeform ]
    ]
  ]
  ( pce
    [ sparse_grid_level INTEGERLIST ]
  ]
  ( sc
    [ sparse_grid_level INTEGERLIST ]
  )
]
[ use_derivatives ]
CHAPTER 4. DAKOTA INPUT SPECIFICATION

[ likelihood_scale REAL ]
[ calibrate_sigma ]
[ samples INTEGER ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)

| ( dace
grid
  | random
  | oas
  | lhs
  | oa_lhs
  | box_benken
  | central_composite
  [ main_effects ]
  [ quality_metrics ]
  [ variance_based_decomp
    [ drop_tolerance REAL ]
  ]
  [ fixed_seed ]
  [ symbols INTEGER ]
  [ samples INTEGER ]
  [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
  [ model_pointer STRING ]
)

| ( fsu_cvt
  [ latinize ]
  [ quality_metrics ]
  [ variance_based_decomp
    [ drop_tolerance REAL ]
  ]
  [ fixed_seed ]
  [ trial_type
grid
    | halton
    | random
  ]
  [ num_trials INTEGER ]
  [ samples INTEGER ]
  [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
  [ model_pointer STRING ]
)

| ( psuade_moat
  [ partitions INTEGERLIST ]
  [ samples INTEGER ]
  [ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
  [ model_pointer STRING ]
)

| ( local_evidence ALIAS nond_local_evidence
  [ sqp
    | nip
  ]
  [ response_levels REALLIST
    [ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
  ]
  [ compute
    probabilities
  ]
  [ gen_reliabilities
  ]
  [ system
    series
  ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

| parallel |
|          |
|          |
|          |
| probability_levels REALIST |
| num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST |
|          |
| gen_reliability_levels REALIST |
| num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST |
|          |
| distribution |
| cumulative |
| complementary |
|          |
| model_pointer STRING |
|          |
|          |
| local_interval_est ALIAS nond_local_interval_est |
| sqp |
| nip |
| model_pointer STRING |
|          |
|          |
| local_reliability ALIAS nond_local_reliability |
| mpp_search |
| x_taylor_mean |
| u_taylor_mean |
| x_taylor_mpp |
| u_taylor_mpp |
| x_two_point |
| u_two_point |
| no_approx |
| sqp |
| nip |
| integration |
| first_order |
| second_order |
| probability_refinement ALIAS sample_refinement |
| import |
| adapt_import |
| mm_adapt_import |
| refinement_samples INTEGER |
| seed INTEGER > 0 |
|          |
|          |
| response_levels REALIST |
| num_response_levels INTEGERLIST |
| compute |
| probabilities |
| reliabilities |
| gen_reliabilities |
| system |
| series |
| parallel |
|          |
|          |
| reliability_levels REALIST |
| num_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST |
|          |
| distribution |
cumulative
| complementary
|
[ probability_levels REALLIST
[ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
[ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
|
( global_reliability ALIAS nond_global_reliability
x_gaussian_process ALIAS x_kriging
| u_gaussian_process ALIAS u_kriging
[ surfpack
| dakota ]
[ import_points_file STRING
[ annotated
| freeform ]
[ active_only ]
]
[ export_points_file STRING
[ annotated
| freeform ]
]
[ use_derivatives ]
[ seed INTEGER > 0 ]
[ rng
mt19937
| rnum2
]
[ response_levels REALLIST
[ num_response_levels INTEGERLIST ]
[ compute
probabilities
| gen_reliabilities
[ system
series
| parallel
]
]
]
| distribution
| cumulative

| complementary
|
[ probability_levels REALLIST
[ num_probability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ gen_reliability_levels REALLIST
[ num_gen_reliability_levels INTEGERLIST ]
]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
|
( fsu_quasi_mc
halton
| hammersley
[ latinize ]
[ quality_metrics ]
| variance_based_decomp
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

[ drop_tolerance REAL ]
[
[ samples INTEGER ]
[ fixed_sequence ]
[ sequence_start INTEGERLIST ]
[ sequence_leap INTEGERLIST ]
[ prime_base INTEGERLIST ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
]
[
( vector_parameter_study
final_point REALLIST
| step_vector REALLIST
num_steps INTEGER
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
]
[
( list_parameter_study
list_of_points REALLIST
|
( import_points_file STRING
[ annotated
| freeform ]
[ active_only ]
)
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
]
[
( centered_parameter_study
step_vector REALLIST
steps_per_variable ALIAS deltas_per_variable INTEGERLIST
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
]
[
( multidim_parameter_study
partitions INTEGERLIST
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
]
[
( richardson_extrap
estimate_order
| converge_order
| converge_qoi
[ refinement_rate REAL ]
[ model_pointer STRING ]
)
]

KEYWORD model
[ id_model STRING ]
[ variables_pointer STRING ]
[ responses_pointer STRING ]
[ hierarchical_tagging ]
[ single
[ interface_pointer STRING ]
]
[
( surrogate
[ id_surrogates INTEGERLIST ]
( global
[ gaussian_process ALIAS kriging
( dakota
[ point_selection ]

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[ trend
c  constant
  | linear
  | reduced_quadratic
]
)
|
( surfpack
[ trend
c  constant
  | linear
  | reduced_quadratic
  | quadratic
]
[ optimization_method STRING ]
[ max_trials INTEGER > 0 ]
[ nugget REAL > 0
  | find_nugget INTEGER ]
[ correlation_lengths REALIST ]
[ export_model_file STRING ]
)
)
|
( mars
[ max_bases INTEGER ]
[ interpolation
  linear
  | cubic
]
[ export_model_file STRING ]
)
|
( moving_least_squares
[ poly_order INTEGER ]
[ weight_function INTEGER ]
[ export_model_file STRING ]
)
|
( neural_network
[ max_nodes ALIAS nodes INTEGER ]
[ range REAL ]
[ random_weight INTEGER ]
[ export_model_file STRING ]
)
|
( radial_basis
[ bases INTEGER ]
[ max_pts INTEGER ]
[ min_partition INTEGER ]
[ max_subsets INTEGER ]
[ export_model_file STRING ]
)
|
( polynomial
  linear
  | quadratic
  | cubic
[ export_model_file STRING ]
)
[ total_points INTEGER
  | minimum_points
  | recommended_points ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```
[ dace_method_pointer STRING ]
[ reuse_points ALIAS reuse_samples
  all
  | region
  | none ]

[ import_points_file ALIAS samples_file STRING
  [ annotated
    | freeform ]
  [ active_only ] ]

[ export_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
    | freeform ] ]

[ use_derivatives ]
[ correction
  zeroth_order
  | first_order
  | second_order
  additive
  | multiplicative
  | combined ]

[ metrics ALIAS diagnostics STRINGLIST
  [ cross_validation
    [ folds INTEGER
      | percent REAL ] ]
  [ press ] ]

[ challenge_points_file STRING
  [ annotated
    | freeform ]
  [ active_only ] ]

)

[ multipoint
  tana
  actual_model_pointer STRING ]

[ local
  taylor_series
  actual_model_pointer STRING ]

[ hierarchical
  low_fidelity_model_pointer STRING
  high_fidelity_model_pointer STRING
  correction
  zeroth_order
  | first_order
  | second_order
  additive
  | multiplicative
  | combined ]
```
( nested
    [ optional_interface_pointer STRING
    [ optional_interface_responses_pointer STRING ]
    ]
    [ sub_method_pointer STRING
      [ iterator_servers INTEGER > 0 ]
      [ iterator_scheduling
        master
        | peer
      ]
      [ processors_per_iterator INTEGER > 0 ]
      [ primary_variable_mapping STRINGLIST ]
      [ secondary_variable_mapping STRINGLIST ]
      [ primary_response_mapping REALLIST ]
      [ secondary_response_mapping REALLIST ]
    ]
)

KEYWORD12 variables
[ id_variables STRING ]
[ active
  all
  | design
  | uncertain
  | aleatory
  | epistemic
  | state
]
[ mixed
  | relaxed ]
[ continuous_design INTEGER > 0
  [ initial_point ALIAS cdv_initial_point REALLIST ]
  [ lower_bounds ALIAS cdv_lower_bounds REALLIST ]
  [ upper_bounds ALIAS cdv_upper_bounds REALLIST ]
  [ scale_types ALIAS cdv_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
  [ scales ALIAS cdv_scales REALLIST ]
  [ descriptors ALIAS cdv_descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
[ discrete_design_range INTEGER > 0
  [ initial_point ALIAS ddv_initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
  [ lower_bounds ALIAS ddv_lower_bounds INTEGERLIST ]
  [ upper_bounds ALIAS ddv_upper_bounds INTEGERLIST ]
  [ descriptors ALIAS ddv_descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
[ discrete_design_set
  [ integer INTEGER > 0
    [ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
    elements ALIAS set_values INTEGERLIST
    [ categorical STRINGLIST ]
    [ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
    [ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
  ]
  [ string INTEGER > 0
    [ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
    elements ALIAS set_values STRINGLIST
    [ initial_point STRINGLIST ]
    [ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
  ]
  [ real INTEGER > 0
    [ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
    elements ALIAS set_values REALLIST
    [ categorical STRINGLIST ]
  ]
)
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

[ initial_point REALLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

| normal_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| means ALIAS nuv_means REALLIST
| std_deviations ALIAS nuv_std_deviations REALLIST
| lower_bounds ALIAS nuv_lower_bounds REALLIST
| upper_bounds ALIAS nuv_upper_bounds REALLIST
| initial_point REALLIST
| descriptors ALIAS nuv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| lognormal_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| ( lambdas ALIAS lnuv_lambdas REALLIST
| zetas ALIAS lnuv_zetas REALLIST
| )
| ( means ALIAS lnuv_means REALLIST
| std_deviations ALIAS lnuv_std_deviations REALLIST
| error_factors ALIAS lnuv_error_factors REALLIST
| )
| lower_bounds ALIAS lnuv_lower_bounds REALLIST
| upper_bounds ALIAS lnuv_upper_bounds REALLIST
| initial_point REALLIST
| descriptors ALIAS lnuv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| uniform_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| lower_bounds ALIAS uuv_lower_bounds REALLIST
| upper_bounds ALIAS uuv_upper_bounds REALLIST
| [ initial_point REALLIST ]
| descriptors ALIAS uuv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| loguniform_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| lower_bounds ALIAS luuv_lower_bounds REALLIST
| upper_bounds ALIAS luuv_upper_bounds REALLIST
| initial_point REALLIST
| descriptors ALIAS luuv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| triangular_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| modes ALIAS tuv_modes REALLIST
| lower_bounds ALIAS tuv_lower_bounds REALLIST
| upper_bounds ALIAS tuv_upper_bounds REALLIST
| initial_point REALLIST
| descriptors ALIAS tuv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| exponential_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| betas ALIAS euv_betas REALLIST
| [ initial_point REALLIST ]
| descriptors ALIAS euv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| beta_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| alphas ALIAS buv_alphas REALLIST
| betas ALIAS buv_betas REALLIST
| lower_bounds ALIAS buv_lower_bounds REALLIST
| upper_bounds ALIAS buv_upper_bounds REALLIST
| initial_point REALLIST
| descriptors ALIAS buv_descriptors STRINGLIST

| gamma_uncertain INTEGER > 0
| alphas ALIAS gauv_alphas REALLIST
| betas ALIAS gauv_betas REALLIST
| initial_point REALLIST
CHAPTER 4. DAKOTA INPUT SPECIFICATION

[ descriptors ALIAS gauv_descriptors STRINGLIST ]

[ gumbel_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  alphas ALIAS guuv_alphas REALLIST
  betas ALIAS guuv_betas REALLIST
  [ initial_point REALLIST ]
  [ descriptors ALIAS guuv_descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ frechet_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  alphas ALIAS fuv_alphas REALLIST
  betas ALIAS fuv_betas REALLIST
  [ initial_point REALLIST ]
  [ descriptors ALIAS fuv_descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ weibull_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  alphas ALIAS wuv_alphas REALLIST
  betas ALIAS wuv_betas REALLIST
  [ initial_point REALLIST ]
  [ descriptors ALIAS wuv_descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ histogram_bin_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  [ pairs_per_variable ALIAS num_pairs INTEGERLIST ]
  abscissas ALIAS huv_bin_abscissas REALLIST
  ordinates ALIAS huv_bin_ordinates REALLIST
  counts ALIAS huv_bin_counts REALLIST
  [ initial_point REALLIST ]
  [ descriptors ALIAS huv_bin_descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ poisson_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  lambdas REALLIST
  [ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
  [ descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ binomial_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  probability_per_trial ALIAS prob_per_trial REALLIST
  num_trials INTEGERLIST
  [ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
  [ descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ negative_binomial_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  probability_per_trial ALIAS prob_per_trial REALLIST
  num_trials INTEGERLIST
  [ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
  [ descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ geometric_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  probability_per_trial ALIAS prob_per_trial REALLIST
  [ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
  [ descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ hypergeometric_uncertain INTEGER > 0
  total_population INTEGERLIST
  selected_population INTEGERLIST
  num_drawn INTEGERLIST
  [ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
  [ descriptors STRINGLIST ] ]

[ histogram_point_uncertain
  [ integer INTEGER > 0
    [ pairs_per_variable ALIAS num_pairs INTEGERLIST ]
    abscissas INTEGERLIST
    counts REALLIST ]
  [ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

```plaintext
[ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]

[ string INTEGER > 0
[ pairs_per_variable ALIAS num_pairs INTEGERLIST ]
abscissas STRINGLIST
counts REALLIST
[ initial_point STRINGLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ real INTEGER > 0
[ pairs_per_variable ALIAS num_pairs INTEGERLIST ]
abscissas REALLIST
counts REALLIST
[ initial_point REALLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ uncertain_correlation_matrix REALLIST ]
[ continuous_interval_uncertain ALIAS interval_uncertain INTEGER > 0
[ interval_probabilities ALIAS interval_probs ALIAS iuv_interval_probs REALLIST ]
lower_bounds REALLIST
upper_bounds REALLIST
[ initial_point REALLIST ]
[ descriptors ALIAS iuv_descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ discrete_interval_uncertain ALIAS discrete_uncertain_range INTEGER > 0
[ num_intervals INTEGERLIST ]
[ interval_probabilities ALIAS interval_probs ALIAS range_probabilities ALIAS range_probs REALLIST ]
lower_bounds INTEGERLIST
upper_bounds INTEGERLIST
[ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ discrete_uncertain_set
[ integer INTEGER > 0
[ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
elements ALIAS set_values INTEGERLIST
[ set_probabilities ALIAS set_probs REALLIST ]
[ categorical STRINGLIST ]
[ initial_point INTEGERLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ string INTEGER > 0
[ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
elements ALIAS set_values STRINGLIST
[ set_probabilities ALIAS set_probs REALLIST ]
[ initial_point STRINGLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ real INTEGER > 0
[ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
elements ALIAS set_values REALLIST
[ set_probabilities ALIAS set_probs REALLIST ]
[ categorical STRINGLIST ]
[ initial_point REALLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]

[ continuous_state INTEGER > 0
[ initial_state ALIAS csv_initial_state REALLIST ]
```
[ lower_bounds ALIAS csv_lower_bounds REALLIST ]
[ upper_bounds ALIAS csv_upper_bounds REALLIST ]
[ descriptors ALIAS csv_descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
[ discrete_state_range INTEGER > 0
[ initial_state ALIAS dsv_initial_state INTEGERLIST ]
[ lower_bounds ALIAS dsv_lower_bounds INTEGERLIST ]
[ upper_bounds ALIAS dsv_upper_bounds INTEGERLIST ]
[ descriptors ALIAS dsv_descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
[ discrete_state_set
[ integer INTEGER > 0
[ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
 elements ALIAS set_values INTEGERLIST
[ categorical STRINGLIST ]
[ initial_state INTEGERLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
[ string INTEGER > 0
[ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
 elements ALIAS set_values STRINGLIST
[ initial_state STRINGLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
[ real INTEGER > 0
[ elements_per_variable ALIAS num_set_values INTEGERLIST ]
 elements ALIAS set_values REALLIST
[ categorical STRINGLIST ]
[ initial_state REALLIST ]
[ descriptors STRINGLIST ]
]
]

KEYWORD12 interface
[ id_interface STRING ]
[ algebraic_mappings STRING ]
[ analysis_drivers STRINGLIST
[ analysis_components STRINGLIST ]
[ input_filter STRING ]
[ output_filter STRING ]
]
(system
  | fork
  | parameters_file STRING ]
  | results_file STRING ]
  | allow_existing_results ]
  | verbatim ]
  | aprepro ALIAS dprepro ]
  | file_tag ]
  | file_save ]
[ work_directory
  | named STRING ]
  | directory_tag ALIAS dir_tag ]
  | directory_save ALIAS dir_save ]
  | link_files STRINGLIST ]
  | copy_files STRINGLIST ]
  | replace ]
]
)

( direct
  | processors_per_analysis INTEGER > 0 ]
)
### 4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

| matlab         | (python                                      |
|               |   (numpy)                                   |
| scilab        | grid                                       |
| failure_capture  | abort                                      |
|               | retry INTEGER                              |
|               | recover REALLIST                           |
|               | continuation                                |
|               | [deactivate                                 |
|               |   [active_set_vector]                       |
|               |   [evaluation_cache]                        |
|               |   [strict_cache_equality                    |
|               |     [cache_tolerance REAL]                  |
|               |   ]                                        |
|               |   [restart_file]                            |
|               | ]                                          |
|               | [asynchronous                              |
|               |   [evaluation_concurrency INTEGER > 0]      |
|               |   [local_evaluation_scheduling              |
|               |     dynamic                                 |
|               |     [static]                                |
|               |   ]                                        |
|               |   [analysis_concurrency INTEGER > 0]        |
|               | ]                                          |
|               |   [evaluation_servers INTEGER > 0]          |
|               |   [evaluation_scheduling                    |
|               |     master                                  |
|               |     [peer]                                  |
|               |     [dynamic]                               |
|               |     [static]                                |
|               |   ]                                        |
|               |   [processors_per_evaluation INTEGER > 0]   |
|               |   [analysis_servers INTEGER > 0]            |
|               |   [analysis_scheduling                      |
|               |     master                                  |
|               |     [peer]                                  |
|               | ]                                          |

**KEYWORD12 responses**

```plaintext
[ id_responses STRING ]
[ descriptors ALIAS response_descriptors STRINGLIST ]
( objective_functions ALIAS num_objective_functions INTEGER >= 0
  [ sense STRINGLIST ]
  [ primary_scale_types ALIAS objective_function_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
  [ primary_scales ALIAS objective_function_scales REALLIST ]
  [ weights ALIAS multi_objective_weights REALLIST ]
  [ nonlinear_inequality_constraints ALIAS num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints INTEGER >= 0
    [ lower_bounds ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST ]
    [ upper_bounds ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST ]
    [ scale_types ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
    [ scales ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
  ]
  [ nonlinear_equality_constraints ALIAS num_nonlinear_equality_constraints INTEGER >= 0
    [ targets ALIAS nonlinear_equality_targets REALLIST ]
```

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[ scale_types ALIAS nonlinear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ scales ALIAS nonlinear_equality_scales REALLIST ]
)
[ scalar_objectives ALIAS num_scalar_objectives INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ field_objectives ALIAS num_field_objectives INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ lengths INTEGERLIST ]
[ num_coordinates_per_field INTEGERLIST ]
[ coordinate_list REALLIST ]
[ coordinate_data_file STRING ]
)
[ calibration_terms ALIAS least_squares_terms ALIAS num_least_squares_terms INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ primary_scale_types ALIAS calibration_term_scale_types ALIAS least_squares_term_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ primary_scales ALIAS calibration_term_scales ALIAS least_squares_term_scales REALLIST ]
[ weights ALIAS calibration_weights ALIAS least_squares_weights REALLIST ]
[ scalar_calibration_terms ALIAS num_scalar_calibration_terms INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ calibration_data_file ALIAS least_squares_data_file STRING ]
[ num_experiments INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ annotated ]
[ freeform ]
[ num_config_variables INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ sigma_type STRINGLIST ]
[ num_std_deviations INTEGER >= 0 ]
)
[ nonlinear_inequality_constraints ALIAS num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ lower_bounds ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_lower_bounds REALLIST ]
[ upper_bounds ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_upper_bounds REALLIST ]
[ scale_types ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ scales ALIAS nonlinear_inequality_scales REALLIST ]
)
[ nonlinear_equality_constraints ALIAS num_nonlinear_equality_constraints INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ targets ALIAS nonlinear_equality_targets REALLIST ]
[ scale_types ALIAS nonlinear_equality_scale_types STRINGLIST ]
[ scales ALIAS nonlinear_equality_scales REALLIST ]
)
[ field_calibration_terms ALIAS num_field_calibration_terms INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ lengths INTEGERLIST ]
[ num_coordinates_per_field INTEGERLIST ]
[ coordinate_list REALLIST ]
[ coordinate_data_file STRING ]
[ field_data ]
[ num_experiments INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ annotated ]
[ freeform ]
[ num_config_variables INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ sigma_type STRINGLIST ]
[ field_data_file STRING ]
[ config_data_file STRING ]
[ field_coordinate_data_file STRING ]
[ sigma_data_file STRING ]
)
)
[ response_functions ALIAS num_response_functions INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ scalar_responses ALIAS num_scalar_responses INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ field_responses ALIAS num_field_responses INTEGER >= 0 ]
[ lengths INTEGERLIST ]
[ num_coordinates_per_field INTEGERLIST ]
[ coordinate_list REALLIST ]
[ coordinate_data_file STRING ]
4.4. INPUT SPEC SUMMARY

no_gradients
| analytic_gradients
| ( mixed_gradients
  id_numerical_gradients INTEGERLIST
  id_analytic_gradients INTEGERLIST
  [ method_source ]
  [ [ dakota
    [ ignore_bounds ]
    [ relative
      [ absolute
        [ bounds ]
    ]
  ]
  ] vendor ]
  [ interval_type ]
  [ forward
    [ central ]
  ]
  [ fd_step_size ALIAS fd_gradient_step_size REALLIST ]
) |

| numerical_gradients
| [ method_source ]
| [ [ dakota
  [ ignore_bounds ]
  [ relative
    [ absolute
      [ bounds ]
    ]
  ]
  ] vendor ]
  [ interval_type ]
  [ forward
    [ central ]
  ]
  [ fd_step_size ALIAS fd_gradient_step_size REALLIST ]
) |

no_hessians
|
| numerical_hessians
| [ fd_step_size ALIAS fd_hessian_step_size REALLIST ]
| [ relative
| [ absolute
| [ bounds ]
| [ forward
  [ central ]
) |

| quasi_hessians
| ( bfgs
| [ damped ]
| )
| srl
|
| analytic_hessians
|
| mixed_hessians
| [ id_numerical_hessians INTEGERLIST
  [ fd_step_size ALIAS fd_hessian_step_size REALLIST ]
  ]
| [ relative
  [ absolute
  [ bounds ]
|
[ forward
| central ]
[ id_quasi_hessians INTEGERLIST
  { bfgs
    [ damped ]
  }
| sr1
]
[ id_analytic_hessians INTEGERLIST ]}
Chapter 5

Topics Area

This page introduces the user to the topics used to organize keywords.

- admin
- dakota_IO
- dakota_concepts
- models
- variables_and_responses
- interface
- methods
- advanced_topics
- packages

5.1 admin

Description
This is only for management while ref man is under construction

Related Topics
- empty
- problem
- not_yetReviewed

Related Keywords
5.1.1 empty

Description
This topic tracks the keywords which do not have content in the reference manual
Related Topics
Related Keywords

5.1.2 problem
Description
empty

Related Topics
Related Keywords

5.1.3 not_yet_reviewed
Description
Not yet reviewed.
Here’s a test of the anchors and links
eq-correct_val_add
test caption
eq-taylor_a test caption 2 without quotes
eq-taylor_b
eq-exact_B
eq-exact_A
eq-taylor1
eq-taylor2

Related Topics
Related Keywords

5.2 dakota_IO
Description
Keywords and Concepts relating inputs to Dakota and outputs from Dakota

Related Topics
• dakota_inputs
• dakota_output
• file_formats

Related Keywords
• error_file : Base filename for error redirection
• output_file : Base filename for output redirection
5.2. **DAKOTA_IO**

- **input**: Base filename for post-run mode data input
- **output**: Base filename for post-run mode data output
- **input**: Base filename for pre-run mode data input
- **output**: Base filename for pre-run mode data output
- **read_restart**: Base filename for restart file read
- **stop_restart**: Evaluation ID number at which to stop reading restart file
- **input**: Base filename for run mode data input
- **output**: Base filename for run mode data output
- **write_restart**: Base filename for restart file write

### 5.2.1 dakota_inputs

**Description**

empty

**Related Topics**

- **block**
- **data_import_capabilities**

**Related Keywords**

### 5.2.2 block

**Description**

A block is the highest level of keyword organization in Dakota. There are currently 6 blocks in the Dakota input spec:

**Related Topics**

- **block_identifier**
- **block_pointer**

**Related Keywords**

- **environment**: Top-level settings for Dakota execution
- **interface**: Specifies how function evaluations will be performed in order to map the variables into the responses.
- **method**: Begins Dakota method selection and behavioral settings.
- **model**: Specifies how variables are mapped into a set of responses
• **responses**: Description of the model output data returned to Dakota upon evaluation of an interface.
• **variables**: Specifies the parameter set to be iterated by a particular method.

### block_identifier

**Description**

empty

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

• **id_interface**: Name the interface block; helpful when there are multiple
• **id_method**: Name the method block; helpful when there are multiple
• **id_model**: Give the model block an identifying name, in case of multiple model blocks
• **id_responses**: Name the response block, helpful when there are multiple

### block_pointer

**Description**

See **block_pointer** for details about pointers.

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

• **top_method_pointer**: Identify which method leads the Dakota study
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
5.2. DAKOTA_IO

- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method

- `model_pointer_list` : Associate models with method names
- `method_pointer_list` : Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively
- `global_model_pointer` : Pointer to model used by global method
- `global_method_pointer` : Pointer to global method
- `local_model_pointer` : Pointer to model used by local method
- `local_method_pointer` : Pointer to local method
- `model_pointer_list` : Associate models with method names
- `method_pointer_list` : Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `method_pointer`: Pointer to sub-method to run from each starting point
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Pointer to optimization or least-squares sub-method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `method_pointer`: Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate
• model_pointer : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• method_pointer : Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate
• model_pointer : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• model_pointer : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
• optional_interface_pointer : Pointer to interface that provides non-nested responses
• optional_interface_responses_pointer : Pointer to responses block that defines non-nested responses
• sub_method_pointer : The sub_method_pointer specifies the method block for the sub-iterator
• responses_pointer : Specify which responses block will be used by this model block
• interface_pointer : Interface block pointer for the single model type
• dace_method_pointer : Specify a method to gather training data
• high_fidelity_model_pointer : Pointer to high fidelity model
• low_fidelity_model_pointer : Pointer to low fidelity model
• actual_model_pointer : Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate
• actual_model_pointer : Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate
• variables_pointer : Specify which variables block will be included with this model block
• id_variables : Name the variables block; helpful when there are multiple

5.2.3 data_import_capabilities
Description
empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

5.2.4 dakota_output
Description
empty
Related Topics

Related Keywords

- graphics : Display a 2D graphics window of variables and responses
- output_precision : Control the output precision
- results_output : (Experimental) Write a summary file containing the final results
- results_output_file : The base file name of the results file
- tabular_data : Write a tabular results file with variable and response history
- tabular_data_file : The name of the tabular data output file
- output : Control how much method information is written to the screen and output file

5.2.5 file_formats

Description

empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- aprepro : Write parameters files in APREPRO syntax
- annotated : Denotes annotated file format
- freeform : Denotes freeform file format
- active_only : Import only active variables from tabular data file
- annotated : Denotes annotated file format
- freeform : Denotes freeform file format
- annotated : Denotes annotated file format
- freeform : Denotes freeform file format
- annotated : Denotes annotated file format
- freeform : Denotes freeform file format
- active_only : Import only active variables from tabular data file
5.2. DAKOTA.IO

- **annotated**: Denotes annotated file format
- **freeform**: Denotes freeform file format
- **active_only**: Import only active variables from tabular data file
- annotated: Denotes annotated file format
- freeform: Denotes freeform file format
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5.3. **DAKOTA_CONCEPTS**

- **active_only**: Import only active variables from tabular data file
- **annotated**: Denotes annotated file format
- **freeform**: Denotes freeform file format

### 5.3 *dakota_concepts*

#### Description

Miscellaneous concepts related to Dakota operation

#### Related Topics
- method_independent_controls
- block
- strategies
- command_line_options
- restarts
- pointers

#### Related Keywords

5.3.1 **method_independent_controls**

#### Description

The `<method independent controls>` are those controls which are valid for a variety of methods. In some cases, these controls are abstractions which may have slightly different implementations from one method to the next. While each of these controls is not valid for every method, the controls are valid for enough methods that it was reasonable to consolidate the specifications.

#### Related Topics
- linear_constraints
CHAPTER 5. TOPICS AREA

Related Keywords

- **constraint_tolerance**: The maximum allowable value of constraint violation still considered to be feasible
- **convergence_tolerance**: Stopping criterion based on convergence of the objective function
- **final_solutions**: Number of designs returned as the best solutions
- **id_method**: Name the method block; helpful when there are multiple
- **max_function_evaluations**: Stopping criteria based on number of function evaluations
- **max_iterations**: Stopping criteria based on number of iterations
- **output**: Control how much method information is written to the screen and output file
- **scaling**: Turn on scaling for variables, responses, and constraints
- **speculative**: Compute speculative gradients

5.3.2 linear_constraints

Description

Many methods use linear equality or inequality constraints.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **linear_equation_constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear equalities
- **linear_equation_scale_types**: Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled
- **linear_equation_scales**: Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities
- **linear_equation_targets**: Define target values for the linear equality constraints
- **linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
- **linear_inequality_lower_bounds**: Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- **linear_inequality_scale_types**: Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
- **linear_inequality_scales**: Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**: Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- **linear_equation_constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear equalities
- **linear_equation_scale_types**: Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled
- **linear_equation_scales**: Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities
- **linear_equation_targets**: Define target values for the linear equality constraints
- **linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
5.3. **DAKOTA_CONCEPTS**

- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds` : Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- `linear_inequality_scale_types` : Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
- `linear_inequality_scales` : Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_upper_bounds` : Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- `linear_equality_constraint_matrix` : Define coefficients of the linear equalities
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- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds` : Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- `linear_inequality_scale_types` : Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
- `linear_inequality_scales` : Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_upper_bounds` : Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

CHAPTER 5. TOPICS AREA

- `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`: Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`: Define coefficients of the linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_scale_types`: Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
- `linear_inequality_scales`: Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_targets`: Define target values for the linear equality constraints
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- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`: Define coefficients of the linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_scale_types`: Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled
- `linear_inequality_scales`: Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_targets`: Define target values for the linear equality constraints
5.3. DAKOTA CONCEPTS

- `linear_equality_scales` : Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities
- `linear_equality_targets` : Define target values for the linear equality constraints
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix` : Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds` : Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- `linear_inequality_scale_types` : Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
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- `linear_inequality_upper_bounds` : Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
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- `linear_inequality_scales` : Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- `linear_inequality_upper_bounds` : Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
• **linear_inequality_lower_bounds**: Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

• **linear_inequality_scale_types**: Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

• **linear_inequality_scales**: Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

• **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**: Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

• **linear_equality_constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear equalities

• **linear_equality_scale_types**: Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

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- **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**: Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

### 5.3.3 block

**Description**

A block is the highest level of keyword organization in Dakota. There are currently 6 blocks in the Dakota input spec:

**Related Topics**

- **block_identifier**
- **block_pointer**
Related Keywords

- environment: Top-level settings for Dakota execution
- interface: Specifies how function evaluations will be performed in order to map the variables into the responses.
- model: Specifies how variables are mapped into a set of responses
- responses: Description of the model output data returned to Dakota upon evaluation of an interface.
- variables: Specifies the parameter set to be iterated by a particular method.

block_identifier

Description

empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- id_interface: Name the interface block; helpful when there are multiple
- id_method: Name the method block; helpful when there are multiple
- id_model: Give the model block an identifying name, in case of multiple model blocks
- id_responses: Name the response block, helpful when there are multiple

block_pointer

Description

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- top_method_pointer: Identify which method leads the Dakota study
- model_pointer: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- model_pointer: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- model_pointer: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- model_pointer: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
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5.3. **DAKOTA CONCEPTS**

- **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
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- **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
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- **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- **model_pointer**: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- **model_pointer_list**: Associate models with method names
- **method_pointer_list**: Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively
- **global_model_pointer**: Pointer to model used by global method
- **global_method_pointer**: Pointer to global method
- **local_model_pointer**: Pointer to model used by local method
- `local_method_pointer` : Pointer to local method
- `model_pointer_list` : Associate models with method names
- `method_pointer_list` : Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `method_pointer` : Pointer to sub-method to run from each starting point
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
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- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `method_pointer` : Pointer to optimization or least-squares sub-method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer` : Identifier for model block to be used by a method
5.3. **DAKOTA_CONCEPTS**

- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
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- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `method_pointer`: Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `method_pointer`: Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `model_pointer`: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- `optional_interface_pointer`: Pointer to interface that provides non-nested responses
- `optional_interface_responses_pointer`: Pointer to responses block that defines non-nested responses
- `sub_method_pointer`: The `sub_method_pointer` specifies the method block for the sub-iterator
- `responses_pointer`: Specify which responses block will be used by this model block
- `interface_pointer`: Interface block pointer for the single model type
- `dace_method_pointer`: Specify a method to gather training data
- `high_fidelity_model_pointer`: Pointer to high fidelity model
- `low_fidelity_model_pointer`: Pointer to low fidelity model
- `actual_model_pointer`: Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate
- `actual_model_pointer`: Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate
- `variables_pointer`: Specify which variables block will be included with this model block
- `id_variables`: Name the variables block; helpful when there are multiple

### 5.3.4 strategies

**Description**

empty

**Related Topics**

- `advanced_strategies`
Related Keywords

5.3.5 advanced_strategies

Description

empty

Related Topics

5.3.6 command_line_options

Description

empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

• check : Invoke Dakota in input check mode

• post_run : Invoke Dakota with post-run mode active

• input : Base filename for post-run mode data input

• output : Base filename for post-run mode data output

• pre_run : Invoke Dakota with pre-run mode active

• input : Base filename for pre-run mode data input

• output : Base filename for pre-run mode data output

• run : Invoke Dakota with run mode active

• input : Base filename for run mode data input

• output : Base filename for run mode data output

5.3.7 restarts

Description

empty
5.3. DAKOTA_CONCEPTS

Related Topics

Related Keywords

5.3.8 pointers

Description

For all pointer specifications, if a pointer string is specified and no corresponding id string is available, Dakota will exit with an error message.

If the pointer is optional and no pointer string is specified, then the last specification parsed will be used.

It is appropriate to omit optional cross-referencing whenever the relationships are unambiguous due to the presence of only one specification.

Related Topics

- block_pointer
- objective_function_pointer

Related Keywords

5.3.9 block_pointer

Description

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- top_method_pointer: Identify which method leads the Dakota study
- model_pointer: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
- model_pointer: Identifier for model block to be used by a method
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5.3. DAKOTA_CONCEPTS

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• **high_fidelity_model_pointer**: Pointer to high fidelity model
• **low_fidelity_model_pointer**: Pointer to low fidelity model
• **actual_model_pointer**: Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate
• **actual_model_pointer**: Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate
• **variables_pointer**: Specify which variables block will be included with this model block
• **id_variables**: Name the variables block; helpful when there are multiple

### 5.3.10 **objective_function_pointer**

**Description**

See **block_pointer** for details about pointers.

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

• **id_analytic_gradients**: Identify which analytical gradient corresponds to which response
• **id_numerical_gradients**: Identify which numerical gradient corresponds to which response
• **id_analytic_hessians**: Identify which analytical Hessian corresponds to which response
• **id_numerical_hessians**: Identify which numerical-Hessian corresponds to which response
• **id_quasi_hessians**: Identify which quasi-Hessian corresponds to which response
5.4 models

Description
Keywords and Concepts relating to the model block

Related Topics
- surrogate_models
- recast_models
- multifidelity_models
- reduced_order_models
- nested_models
- advanced_model_recursion

Related Keywords
5.4.1 surrogate_models

Description
empty

Related Topics
- surrogate_based_optimization_methods

Related Keywords
- point_selection : Enable greedy selection of well-spaced build points
- export_model_file : Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
- export_model_file : Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
- metrics : Compute surrogate quality metrics
- cross_validation : Perform k-fold cross validation
- export_model_file : Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
- export_model_file : Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
- max_nodes : Maximum number of hidden layer nodes
- random_weight : (Inactive) Random weight control
- range : Range for neural network random weights
- export_model_file : Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
• **bases**: Initial number of radial basis functions
• **export_model_file**: Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
• **max_pts**: Maximum number of RBF CVT points
• **max_subsets**: Number of trial RBF subsets
• **min_partition**: (Inactive) Minimum RBF partition
• **reuse_points**: Surrogate model training data reuse control

### 5.4.2 surrogate_based_optimization_methods

**Description**
empty

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

• **efficient_global**: Global Surrogate Based Optimization, a.k.a. EGO
• **surrogate_based_global**: Global Surrogate Based Optimization
• **surrogate_based_local**: Local Surrogate Based Optimization

### 5.4.3 recast_models

**Description**
empty

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

### 5.4.4 multifidelity_models

**Description**
empty

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

### 5.4.5 reduced_order_models

**Description**
empty
5.5. VARIABLES_AND_RESPONSES

Related Topics

5.4.6 nested_models

Description
empty

Related Topics

5.4.7 advanced_model_recursion

Description
empty

Related Topics

• hybrid_and_recursions_logic

Related Keywords
hybrid_and_recursions_logic

Description
empty

Related Topics

5.5 variables_and_responses

Description
Keywords and concepts relating to the variables and responses blocks

Related Topics

• variable_domain
• variable_type
• variables_management
• response_types
CHAPTER 5. TOPICS AREA

Related Keywords

5.5.1 variable_domain

Description
Dakota variables can be grouped by their valid domains.

1. Continuous variables are defined by a single interval of real numbers
2. Discrete variables are defined by a finite set of real numbers

Related Topics
- continuous_variables
- discrete_variables

Related Keywords

5.5.2 continuous_variables

Description
empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- beta_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - beta
- continuous_design: Continuous design variables; each defined by a real interval
- continuous_interval_uncertain: Epistemic uncertain variable - values from one or more continuous intervals
- continuous_state: Continuous state variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain: Epistemic uncertain variable - values from one or more discrete intervals
- exponential_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - exponential
- frechet_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - Frechet
- gamma_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - gamma
- gumbel_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - gumbel
- histogram_bin_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - continuous histogram
- lognormal_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - lognormal
- loguniform_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - loguniform
- normal_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - normal (Gaussian)
- triangular_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - triangular
- uniform_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - uniform
- weibull_uncertain: Aleatory uncertain variable - Weibull
5.5. VARIABLES_AND_RESPONSES

5.5.3 discrete_variables

Description
This page discusses discrete state, design, and uncertain variables (which have \textit{discrete} in their keyword name) as they have similar specifications. These include:

1. Set of integers
2. Set of strings
3. Set of reals
4. Range(s) and each is described below.

In addition, some uncertain variables, e.g., binomial, are discrete, real-valued random variables specified using parameters. These are described on their individual keyword pages.

Sets
Sets of integers, strings, and reals have similar specifications, though different value types. The variables are specified using three keywords:

- Variable declaration keyword - specifies the number of variables being defined
- \texttt{elements\_per\_variable} - a list of positive integers specifying how many set members each variable admits
  - Length = \# of variables
- \texttt{elements} - a list of the permissible integer values in ALL sets, concatenated together.
  - Length = sum of \texttt{elements\_per\_variable}, or an integer multiple of number of variables
  - The order is very important here.
  - The list is partitioned according to the values of \texttt{elements\_per\_variable}, and each partition is assigned to a variable.
- The ordering of \texttt{elements\_per\_variable}, and the partitions of \texttt{elements} must match the strings from descriptors

For string variables, each string element value must be quoted and may contain alphanumeric, dash, underscore, and colon. White space, quote characters, and backslash/metacharacters are not permitted. Examples are given on the pages:

- integer
- string
- real
- integer
- real

Range
For discrete variables defined by range(s), the \texttt{lower\_bounds} and \texttt{upper\_bounds} restrict the permissible values. For design variables, this constrains the feasible design space and is frequently used to prevent nonphysical designs. This is a discrete interval variable that may take any integer value within bounds (e.g., \([1, 4]\), allowing values of 1, 2, 3, or 4). For some variable types, each variable is can be defined by multiple ranges.

Examples are given on the pages:

- discrete\_interval\_uncertain
Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **binomial_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - binomial
- **discrete_design_range**: Discrete design variables; each defined by an integer interval
- **discrete_design_set**: Set-valued discrete design variables
- **integer**: Integer-valued discrete design variables
- **real**: Real-valued discrete design variables
- **string**: String-valued discrete design set variables
- **discrete_state_range**: Discrete state variables; each defined by an integer interval
- **discrete_state_set**: Set-valued discrete state variables
- **integer**: Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible integers
- **real**: Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible real numbers
- **string**: String-valued discrete state set variables
- **discrete_uncertain_set**: Set-valued discrete uncertain variables
- **integer**: Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - integers within a set
- **real**: Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - real numbers within a set
- **string**: Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - strings within a set
- **geometric_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - geometric
- **histogram_point_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - discrete histogram
- **hypergeometric_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - hypergeometric
- **negative_binomial_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - negative binomial
- **poisson_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - Poisson

5.5.4 **variable_type**

Description

Dakota variables can be grouped by their type or usage. Each type is intended to be used with a set of methods, i.e.: design variables used with optimization methods. However, the user can also change how methods use the different variable types - see active.

Related Topics

- **design_variables**
- **aleatory_uncertain_variables**
- **epistemic_uncertain_variables**
- **state_variables**
5.5. VARIABLES AND RESPONSES

Related Keywords

5.5.5 design_variables

Description
Design variables are those variables which are modified for the purposes of computing an optimal design.

The most common type of design variables encountered in engineering applications are of the continuous type. These variables may assume any real value within their bounds. All but a handful of the optimization algorithms in Dakota support continuous design variables exclusively.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- continuous_design : Continuous design variables; each defined by a real interval
- discrete_design_range : Discrete design variables; each defined by an integer interval
- discrete_design_set : Set-valued discrete design variables
- integer : Integer-valued discrete design variables
- real : Real-valued discrete design variables
- string : String-valued discrete design set variables

5.5.6 aleatory_uncertain_variables

Description
Aleatory uncertainty is also known as inherent variability, irreducible uncertainty, or randomness.

Aleatory uncertainty is predominantly characterized using probability theory. This is the only option implemented in Dakota.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- beta_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - beta
- binomial_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - binomial
- exponential_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - exponential
- frechet_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - Frechet
- gamma_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - gamma
- geometric_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - geometric
- gumbel_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - gumbel
- histogram_bin_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - continuous histogram
- histogram_point_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - discrete histogram
• hypergeometric_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - hypergeometric
• lognormal_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - lognormal
• loguniform_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - loguniform
• negative_binomial_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - negative binomial
• normal_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - normal (Gaussian)
• poisson_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - Poisson
• triangular_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - triangular
• uniform_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - uniform
• weibull_uncertain : Aleatory uncertain variable - Weibull

5.5.7 epistemic_uncertain_variables

Description
Epistemic uncertainty is uncertainty due to lack of knowledge.
In Dakota, epistemic uncertainty is characterized by interval analysis or the Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

Note that epistemic uncertainty can also be modeled with probability density functions - similarly to aleatory uncertainty Dakota does not support this capability.

Related Topics

5.5.8 state_variables

Description
State variables provide a convenient mechanism for managing additional model parameterizations such as mesh density, simulation convergence tolerances, and time step controls.

Only parameter studies and design of experiments methods will iterate on state variables.
The initial state is used as the only value for the state variable for all other methods, unless active state is invoked.

If a method iterates on a state variable, the variable is treated as a design variable with the given bounds, or as a uniform uncertain variable with the given bounds.

If the state variable is defined only by its bounds, and the method does NOT iterate on state variables, then the initial_state must be inferred.
5.6. INTERFACE

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- continuous_state: Continuous state variables
- discrete_state_range: Discrete state variables; each defined by an integer interval
- discrete_state_set: Set-valued discrete state variables
- integer: Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible integers
- real: Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible real numbers
- string: String-valued discrete state set variables

5.5.9 variables_management

Description

empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

5.5.10 response_types

Description

Dakota responses are grouped by type or usage. Each type is intended to be used with a set of methods, i.e.: objective functions used with optimization methods.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

5.6 interface

Description

Keywords and Concepts relating to the interface block, which is used to connect Dakota to external analysis codes (simulations, etc.)

Related Topics

- simulation_file_management
- workflow_management
- advanced_simulation_interfaces
Related Keywords

5.6.1 simulation_file_management
Description
empty

Related Topics
Related Keywords

5.6.2 workflow_management
Description
empty

Related Topics
Related Keywords

5.6.3 advanced_simulation_interfaces
Description
empty

Related Topics
- simulation_failure
- concurrency_and_parallelism

Related Keywords
simulation_failure
Description
empty

Related Topics
Related Keywords
concurrency_and_parallelism
Description
empty
5.6. **INTERFACE**

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

- `processors_per_analysis` : Specify the number of processors per analysis when Dakota is run in parallel
- `analysis_scheduling` : Specify the scheduling of concurrent analyses when Dakota is run in parallel
- `master` : Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel analysis scheduling
- `peer` : Specify a peer partition for parallel analysis scheduling
- `analysis_servers` : Specify the number of analysis servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- `asynchronous` : Specify analysis driver concurrency, when Dakota is run in serial
- `analysis_concurrency` : Limit the number of analysis drivers within an evaluation that Dakota will schedule
- `evaluation_concurrency` : Determine how many concurrent evaluations Dakota will schedule
- `local_evaluation_scheduling` : Control how local asynchronous jobs are scheduled
- `master` : Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel evaluation scheduling
- `peer` : Specify a peer partition for parallel evaluation scheduling
- `dynamic` : Specify dynamic scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.
- `static` : Specify static scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.
- `evaluation_servers` : Specify the number of evaluation servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- `processors_per_evaluation` : Specify the number of processors per evaluation server when Dakota is run in parallel
- `iterator_scheduling` : Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
- `master` : Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- `peer` : Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- `iterator_servers` : Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- `processors_per_iterator` : Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel
- `iterator_scheduling` : Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
- `master` : Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- `peer` : Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
• iterator_servers : Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
• processors_per_iterator : Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel
• iterator_scheduling : Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
• master : Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling
• peer : Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
• iterator_servers : Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
• processors_per_iterator : Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

5.7 methods

Description

Keywords and Concepts relating to the method block, including discussion of the different methods and algorithms available in Dakota

Related Topics
• parameter_studies
• sensitivity_analysis_and_design_of_experiments
• uncertainty_quantification
• optimization_and_calibration

Related Keywords

5.7.1 parameter_studies

Description

Parameter studies employ deterministic designs to explore the effect of parametric changes within simulation models, yielding one form of sensitivity analysis. They can help assess simulation characteristics such as smoothness, multi-modality, robustness, and nonlinearity, which affect the choice of algorithms and controls in follow-on optimization and UQ studies.

Dakota’s parameter study methods compute response data sets at a selection of points in the parameter space. These points may be specified as a vector, a list, a set of centered vectors, or a multi-dimensional grid. Capability overviews and examples of the different types of parameter studies are provided in the Users Manual [Adams et al., 2010] .

With the exception of output verbosity (a setting of silent will suppress some parameter study diagnostic output), Dakota’s parameter study methods do not make use of the method independent controls. Therefore, the parameter study documentation which follows is limited to the method dependent controls for the vector, list, centered, and multidimensional parameter study methods.
5.7. METHODS

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- centered-parameter_study: Samples variables along points moving out from a center point
- list-parameter_study: Samples variables as a specified values
- multidim-parameter_study: Samples variables on full factorial grid of study points
- partitions: Samples variables on full factorial grid of study points
- vector-parameter_study: Samples variables along a user-defined vector

5.7.2 sensitivity_analysis_and_design_of_experiments

Description
empty

Related Topics

- design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments
- sampling

Related Keywords

5.7.3 design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments

Description
Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments (DACE) methods compute response data sets at a selection of points in the parameter space. Three libraries are provided for performing these studies: DDACE, FSUDace, and PSUADE. The design of experiments methods do not currently make use of any of the method independent controls.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- dace: Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments
- fsu_cvt: Design of Computer Experiments - Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation
- fsu_quasi_mc: Design of Computer Experiments - Quasi-Monte Carlo sampling
- hammersley: Use Hammersley sequences
- psuade_moat: Morris One-at-a-Time
5.7.4 sampling

Description

Sampling techniques are selected using the *sampling* method selection. This method generates sets of samples according to the probability distributions of the uncertain variables and maps them into corresponding sets of response functions, where the number of samples is specified by the *samples* integer specification. Means, standard deviations, coefficients of variation (COVs), and 95% confidence intervals are computed for the response functions. Probabilities and reliabilities may be computed for *response_levels* specifications, and response levels may be computed for either *probability_levels* or *reliability_levels* specifications (refer to the Method Commands chapter in the Dakota Reference Manual[5] for additional information).

Currently, traditional Monte Carlo (MC) and Latin hypercube sampling (LHS) are supported by Dakota and are chosen by specifying *sample_type* as *random* or *lhs*. In Monte Carlo sampling, the samples are selected randomly according to the user-specified probability distributions. Latin hypercube sampling is a stratified sampling technique for which the range of each uncertain variable is divided into \( N_s \) segments of equal probability, where \( N_s \) is the number of samples requested. The relative lengths of the segments are determined by the nature of the specified probability distribution (e.g., uniform has segments of equal width, normal has small segments near the mean and larger segments in the tails). For each of the uncertain variables, a sample is selected randomly from each of these equal probability segments. These \( N_s \) values for each of the individual parameters are then combined in a shuffling operation to create a set of \( N_s \) parameter vectors with a specified correlation structure. A feature of the resulting sample set is that *every row and column in the hypercube of partitions has exactly one sample*. Since the total number of samples is exactly equal to the number of partitions used for each uncertain variable, an arbitrary number of desired samples is easily accommodated (as compared to less flexible approaches in which the total number of samples is a product or exponential function of the number of intervals for each variable, i.e., many classical design of experiments methods).

Advantages of sampling-based methods include their relatively simple implementation and their independence from the scientific disciplines involved in the analysis. The main drawback of these techniques is the large number of function evaluations needed to generate converged statistics, which can render such an analysis computationally very expensive, if not intractable, for real-world engineering applications. LHS techniques, in general, require fewer samples than traditional Monte Carlo for the same accuracy in statistics, but they still can be prohibitively expensive. For further information on the method and its relationship to other sampling techniques, one is referred to the works by McKay, et al.[60], Iman and Shortencarier[53], and Helton and Davis[46]. Note that under certain separability conditions associated with the function to be sampled, Latin hypercube sampling provides a more accurate estimate of the mean value than does random sampling. That is, given an equal number of samples, the LHS estimate of the mean will have less variance than the mean value obtained through random sampling.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- *importance_sampling* : Importance sampling
- *sampling* : Randomly samples variables according to their distributions

5.7.5 uncertainty_quantification

Description

Dakota provides a variety of methods for propagating both aleatory and epistemic uncertainty.

At a high level, uncertainty quantification (UQ) or nondeterministic analysis is the process of characterizing input uncertainties, forward propagating these uncertainties through a computational model, and performing
statistical or interval assessments on the resulting responses. This process determines the effect of uncertainties and assumptions on model outputs or results. In Dakota, uncertainty quantification methods specifically focus on the forward propagation part of the process, where probabilistic or interval information on parametric inputs are mapped through the computational model to assess statistics or intervals on outputs. For an overview of these approaches for engineering applications, consult [42].

UQ is related to sensitivity analysis in that the common goal is to gain an understanding of how variations in the parameters affect the response functions of the engineering design problem. However, for UQ, some or all of the components of the parameter vector, are considered to be uncertain as specified by particular probability distributions (e.g., normal, exponential, extreme value), or other uncertainty structures. By assigning specific distributional structure to the inputs, distributional structure for the outputs (i.e., response statistics) can be inferred. This migrates from an analysis that is more \textit{qualitative} in nature, in the case of sensitivity analysis, to an analysis that is more rigorously \textit{quantitative}.

UQ methods are often distinguished by their ability to propagate aleatory or epistemic input uncertainty characterizations, where aleatory uncertainties are irreducible variabilities inherent in nature and epistemic uncertainties are reducible uncertainties resulting from a lack of knowledge. Since sufficient data is generally available for aleatory uncertainties, probabilistic methods are commonly used for computing response distribution statistics based on input probability distribution specifications. Conversely, for epistemic uncertainties, any use of probability distributions is based on subjective knowledge rather than objective data, and we may alternatively explore nonprobabilistic methods based on interval specifications.

Dakota contains capabilities for performing nondeterministic analysis with both types of input uncertainty. These UQ methods have been developed by Sandia Labs, in conjunction with collaborators in academia [30],[31],[20],[80].

The aleatory UQ methods in Dakota include various sampling-based approaches (e.g., Monte Carlo and Latin Hypercube sampling), local and global reliability methods, and stochastic expansion (polynomial chaos expansions and stochastic collocation) approaches. The epistemic UQ methods include local and global interval analysis and Dempster-Shafer evidence theory. These are summarized below and then described in more depth in subsequent sections of this chapter. Dakota additionally supports mixed aleatory/epistemic UQ via interval-valued probability, second-order probability, and Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence. These involve advanced model recursions and are described in Section.

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The choice of uncertainty quantification method depends on how the input uncertainty is characterized, the computational budget, and the desired output accuracy. The recommendations for UQ methods are summarized in Table and are discussed in the remainder of the section.

TODO: Put table in Doxygen if still needed

Related Topics

- aleatory\textunderscore uncertainty\textunderscore quantification\textunderscore methods

- epistemic\textunderscore uncertainty\textunderscore quantification\textunderscore methods
Related Keywords

- **adaptive_sampling**: (Experimental) Build a GP surrogate and refine it adaptively
- **efficient_subspace**: (Experimental) efficient subspace method (ESM)
- **global_interval_est**: Interval analysis using global optimization methods
- **global_reliability**: Global reliability methods
- **gpais**: Gaussian Process Adaptive Importance Sampling
- **importance_sampling**: Importance sampling
- **local_interval_est**: Interval analysis using local optimization
- **local_reliability**: Local reliability method
- **mpp_search**: Specify which MPP search option to use
- **pof_darts**: Probability-of-Failure (POF) darts is a novel method for estimating the probability of failure based on random sphere-packing.
- **sampling**: Randomly samples variables according to their distributions

### 5.7.6 aleatory_uncertainty_quantification_methods

**Description**

Aleatory uncertainty is also known as inherent variability, irreducible uncertainty, or randomness. Aleatory uncertainty is typically characterized using probability theory.

**Related Topics**

- **sampling**
- **reliability_methods**
- **stochastic_expansion_methods**

**Related Keywords**

- **importance_sampling**: Importance sampling

**sampling**

**Description**

Sampling techniques are selected using the **sampling** method selection. This method generates sets of samples according to the probability distributions of the uncertain variables and maps them into corresponding sets of response functions, where the number of samples is specified by the **samples** integer specification. Means, standard deviations, coefficients of variation (COVs), and 95% confidence intervals are computed for the response functions. Probabilities and reliabilities may be computed for response levels specifications, and response levels may be computed for either probability_levels or reliability_levels specifications (refer to the Method Commands chapter in the Dakota Reference Manual[5] for additional information).
Currently, traditional Monte Carlo (MC) and Latin hypercube sampling (LHS) are supported by Dakota and are chosen by specifying `sample_type` as `random` or `lhs`. In Monte Carlo sampling, the samples are selected randomly according to the user-specified probability distributions. Latin hypercube sampling is a stratified sampling technique for which the range of each uncertain variable is divided into \( N_s \) segments of equal probability, where \( N_s \) is the number of samples requested. The relative lengths of the segments are determined by the nature of the specified probability distribution (e.g., uniform has segments of equal width, normal has small segments near the mean and larger segments in the tails). For each of the uncertain variables, a sample is selected randomly from each of these equal probability segments. These \( N_s \) values for each of the individual parameters are then combined in a shuffling operation to create a set of \( N_s \) parameter vectors with a specified correlation structure. A feature of the resulting sample set is that every row and column in the hypercube of partitions has exactly one sample. Since the total number of samples is exactly equal to the number of partitions used for each uncertain variable, an arbitrary number of desired samples is easily accommodated (as compared to less flexible approaches in which the total number of samples is a product or exponential function of the number of intervals for each variable, i.e., many classical design of experiments methods).

Advantages of sampling-based methods include their relatively simple implementation and their independence from the scientific disciplines involved in the analysis. The main drawback of these techniques is the large number of function evaluations needed to generate converged statistics, which can render such an analysis computationally very expensive, if not intractable, for real-world engineering applications. LHS techniques, in general, require fewer samples than traditional Monte Carlo for the same accuracy in statistics, but they still can be prohibitively expensive. For further information on the method and its relationship to other sampling techniques, one is referred to the works by McKay, et al.\[60\], Iman and Shortencarier\[53\], and Helton and Davis\[46\]. Note that under certain separability conditions associated with the function to be sampled, Latin hypercube sampling provides a more accurate estimate of the mean value than does random sampling. That is, given an equal number of samples, the LHS estimate of the mean will have less variance than the mean value obtained through random sampling.

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

- **importance_sampling**: Importance sampling
- **sampling**: Randomly samples variables according to their distributions

**reliability_methods**

**Description**

Reliability methods provide an alternative approach to uncertainty quantification which can be less computationally demanding than sampling techniques. Reliability methods for uncertainty quantification are based on probabilistic approaches that compute approximate response function distribution statistics based on specified uncertain variable distributions. These response statistics include response mean, response standard deviation, and cumulative or complementary cumulative distribution functions (CDF/CCDF). These methods are often more efficient at computing statistics in the tails of the response distributions (events with low probability) than sampling based approaches since the number of samples required to resolve a low probability can be prohibitive.

The methods all answer the fundamental question: “Given a set of uncertain input variables, \( X \), and a scalar response function, \( g \), what is the probability that the response function is below or above a certain level, \( z \)?” The former can be written as \( P[g(X) \leq z] = F_g(z) \) where \( F_g(z) \) is the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of the uncertain response \( g(X) \) over a set of response levels. The latter can be written as \( P[g(X) > z] \) and defines the complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF).

This probability calculation involves a multi-dimensional integral over an irregularly shaped domain of interest, \( D \), where \( g(X) < z \) as displayed in Figure figUQ05 for the case of two variables. The reliability methods
all involve the transformation of the user-specified uncertain variables, \( X \), with probability density function, \( p(x_1, x_2) \), which can be non-normal and correlated, to a space of independent Gaussian random variables, \( u \), possessing a mean value of zero and unit variance (i.e., standard normal variables). The region of interest, \( D \), is also mapped to the transformed space to yield, \( D_u \), where \( g(U) < z \) as shown in Figure \( \text{figUQ06} \). The Nataf transformation\(^{16}\), which is identical to the Rosenblatt transformation\(^{73}\) in the case of independent random variables, is used in Dakota to accomplish this mapping. This transformation is performed to make the probability calculation more tractable. In the transformed space, probability contours are circular in nature as shown in Figure \( \text{figUQ06} \) unlike in the original uncertain variable space, Figure \( \text{figUQ05} \). Also, the multi-dimensional integrals can be approximated by simple functions of a single parameter, \( \beta \), called the reliability index. \( \beta \) is the minimum Euclidean distance from the origin in the transformed space to the response surface. This point is also known as the most probable point (MPP) of failure. Note, however, the methodology is equally applicable for generic functions, not simply those corresponding to failure criteria; this nomenclature is due to the origin of these methods within the disciplines of structural safety and reliability. Note that there are local and global reliability methods. The majority of the methods available are local, meaning that a local optimization formulation is used to locate one MPP. In contrast, global methods can find multiple MPPs if they exist.

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

- global_reliability : Global reliability methods
- u_gaussian_process : Create GP surrogate in u-space
- x_gaussian_process : Create GP surrogate in x-space
- local_reliability : Local reliability method
- mpp_search : Specify which MPP search option to use
- integration : Integration approach
- first_order : First-order integration scheme
- probability_refinement : Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling
- second_order : Second-order integration scheme
- no_approx : Perform MPP search on original response functions (use no approximation)
- u_taylor_mean : Form Taylor series approximation in "u-space" at variable means
- u_taylor_mpp : U-space Taylor series approximation with iterative updates
- u_two_point : Predict MPP using Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation in "u-space"
- x_taylor_mean : Form Taylor series approximation in "x-space" at variable means
- x_taylor_mpp : X-space Taylor series approximation with iterative updates
- x_two_point : Predict MPP using Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation in "x-space"
- probability_refinement : Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling
- probability_refinement : Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling
5.7. METHODS

stochastic_expansion_methods

Description

The development of these techniques mirrors that of deterministic finite element analysis utilizing the notions of projection, orthogonality, and weak convergence\cite{30,31}. Rather than estimating point probabilities, they form an approximation to the functional relationship between response functions and their random inputs, which provides a more complete uncertainty representation for use in multi-code simulations. Expansion methods include polynomial chaos expansions (PCE), which employ multivariate orthogonal polynomials that are tailored to representing particular input probability distributions, and stochastic collocation (SC), which employs multivariate interpolation polynomials. For PCE, expansion coefficients may be evaluated using a spectral projection approach (based on sampling, tensor-product quadrature, Smolyak sparse grid, or cubature methods for numerical integration) or a regression approach (least squares or compressive sensing). For SC, interpolants are formed over tensor-product or sparse grids and may be local or global, value-based or gradient-enhanced, and nodal or hierarchical. In global value-based cases (Lagrange polynomials), the barycentric formulation is used\cite{9,57,49} to improve numerical efficiency and stability. Both sets of methods provide analytic response moments and variance-based metrics; however, CDF/CCDF probabilities are evaluated numerically by sampling on the expansion.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

5.7.7 epistemic_uncertainty_quantification_methods

Description

Epistemic uncertainty is uncertainty due to lack of knowledge.

In Dakota, epistemic uncertainty analysis is performed using interval analysis or Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

Note that epistemic uncertainty can also be modeled probabilistically. It would be more accurate to call this class of method, non-probabilistic uncertainty quantification, but the name persists for historical reasons.

Related Topics

- interval_estimation
- evidence_theory

Related Keywords

- global_evidence : Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with global optimization methods
- global_interval_est : Interval analysis using global optimization methods
- local_evidence : Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with local optimization methods
- local_interval_est : Interval analysis using local optimization
interval_estimation

Description

In interval analysis, one assumes that nothing is known about an epistemic uncertain variable except that its value lies somewhere within an interval. In this situation, it is NOT assumed that the value has a uniform probability of occurring within the interval. Instead, the interpretation is that any value within the interval is a possible value or a potential realization of that variable. In interval analysis, the uncertainty quantification problem is one of determining the resulting bounds on the output (defining the output interval) given interval bounds on the inputs. Again, any output response that falls within the output interval is a possible output with no frequency information assigned to it.

We have the capability to perform interval analysis using either global_interval_est or local_interval_est. In the global approach, one uses either a global optimization method or a sampling method to assess the bounds. global_interval_est allows the user to specify either lhs, which performs Latin Hypercube Sampling and takes the minimum and maximum of the samples as the bounds (no optimization is performed) or ego. In the case of ego, the efficient global optimization method is used to calculate bounds. The ego method is described in Section . If the problem is amenable to local optimization methods (e.g. can provide derivatives or use finite difference method to calculate derivatives), then one can use local methods to calculate these bounds. local_interval_est allows the user to specify either sqp which is sequential quadratic programming, or nip which is a nonlinear interior point method.

Note that when performing interval analysis, it is necessary to define interval uncertain variables as described in Section . For interval analysis, one must define only one interval per input variable, in contrast with Dempster-Shafer evidence theory, where an input can have several possible intervals. Interval analysis can be considered a special case of Dempster-Shafer evidence theory where each input is defined by one input interval with a basic probability assignment of one. In Dakota, however, the methods are separate and semantic differences exist in the output presentation. If you are performing a pure interval analysis, we recommend using either global_interval_est or local_interval_est instead of global_evidence or local_evidence, for reasons of simplicity. An example of interval estimation is found in the Dakota/examples/users/cantilever_uq_global_interval.in, and also in Section .

Note that we have kept separate implementations of interval analysis and Dempster-Shafer evidence theory because our users often want to couple interval analysis on an outer loop” with an aleatory, probabilistic analysis on an inner loop” for nested, second-order probability calculations. See Section for additional details on these nested approaches. These interval methods can also be used as the outer loop within an interval-valued probability analysis for propagating mixed aleatory and epistemic uncertainty – refer to Section for additional details.

Interval analysis is often used to model epistemic uncertainty. In interval analysis, the uncertainty quantification problem is one of determining the resulting bounds on the output (defining the output interval) given interval bounds on the inputs.

We can do interval analysis using either global_interval_est or local_interval_est. In the global approach, one uses either a global optimization method or a sampling method to assess the bounds, whereas the local method uses gradient information in a derivative-based optimization approach.

An example of interval estimation is shown in Figure , with example results in Figure . This example is a demonstration of calculating interval bounds for three outputs of the cantilever beam problem. The cantilever beam problem is described in detail in Section . Given input intervals of [1,10] on beam width and beam thickness, we can see that the interval estimate of beam weight is approximately [1,100].

Min and Max estimated values for each response function:
weight: Min = 1.0000169352e+00 Max = 9.9999491948e+01
stress: Min = -9.7749994284e-01 Max = 2.1499428450e+01
displ: Min = -9.9315672724e-01 Max = 6.7429714485e+01

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Related Topics

Related Keywords

- global_interval_est : Interval analysis using global optimization methods
- local_interval_est : Interval analysis using local optimization

evidence_theory

Description

This section discusses Dempster-Shafer evidence theory. In this approach, one does not assign a probability distribution to each uncertain input variable. Rather, one divides each uncertain input variable into one or more intervals. The input parameters are only known to occur within intervals; nothing more is assumed.

Each interval is defined by its upper and lower bounds, and a Basic Probability Assignment (BPA) associated with that interval. The BPA represents a probability of that uncertain variable being located within that interval.

The intervals and BPAs are used to construct uncertainty measures on the outputs called "belief" and "plausibility." Belief represents the smallest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence, while plausibility represents the largest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence. For more information about the Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence, see [67] "Oberkampf and Helton, 2003" and [47] "Helton and Oberkampf, 2004".

Similar to the interval approaches, one may use global or local methods to determine plausibility and belief measures for the outputs.

Usage Notes

Note that to calculate the plausibility and belief cumulative distribution functions, one has to look at all combinations of intervals for the uncertain variables. Within each interval cell combination, the minimum and maximum value of the objective function determine the belief and plausibility, respectively. In terms of implementation, global methods use LHS sampling or global optimization to calculate the minimum and maximum values of the objective function within each interval cell, while local methods use gradient-based optimization methods to calculate these minima and maxima.

Finally, note that many non-deterministic keywords apply to the evidence methods, but one needs to be careful about the interpretation and translate probabilistic measures to epistemic ones. For example, if the user specifies distribution of type complementary, a complementary plausibility and belief function will be generated for the evidence methods (as opposed to a complementary distribution function in the sampling case). If the user specifies a set of responses levels, both the belief and plausibility will be calculated for each response level. Likewise, if the user specifies a probability level, the probability level will be interpreted both as a belief and plausibility, and response levels corresponding to the belief and plausibility levels will be calculated. Finally, if generalized reliability levels are specified, either as inputs (gen_reliability_levels) or outputs (response_levels with compute gen_reliabilities), then these are directly converted to/from probability levels and the same probability-based mappings described above are performed.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- global_evidence : Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with global optimization methods
- local_evidence : Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with local optimization methods
5.7.8 optimization_and_calibration

Description

Optimization algorithms work to minimize (or maximize) an objective function, typically calculated by the user simulation code, subject to constraints on design variables and responses. Available approaches in Dakota include well-tested, proven gradient-based, derivative-free local, and global methods for use in science and engineering design applications. Dakota also offers more advanced algorithms, e.g., to manage multi-objective optimization or perform surrogate-based minimization. This chapter summarizes optimization problem formulation, standard algorithms available in Dakota (mostly through included third-party libraries, see Section 6.5 of [Adams et al., 2010]), some advanced capabilities, and offers usage guidelines.

Optimization Formulations

This section provides a basic introduction to the mathematical formulation of optimization, problems. The primary goal of this section is to introduce terms relating to these topics, and is not intended to be a description of theory or numerical algorithms. For further details, consult [7], [34], [41], [66], and [85].

A general optimization problem is formulated as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{minimize:} & \quad f(x) \\
& x \in \mathbb{R}^n \\
\text{subject to:} & \quad g_L \leq g(x) \leq g_U \\
& \quad h(x) = h_t \\
& \quad a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
& \quad A_e x = a_t \\
& \quad x_L \leq x \leq x_U
\end{align*}
\]

where vector and matrix terms are marked in bold typeface. In this formulation, \( x = [x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n] \) is an \( n \)-dimensional vector of real-valued design variables or design parameters. The \( n \)-dimensional vectors, \( x_L \) and \( x_U \), are the lower and upper bounds, respectively, on the design parameters. These bounds define the allowable values for the elements of \( x \), and the set of all allowable values is termed the design space or the parameter space. A design point or a sample point is a particular set of values within the parameter space.

The optimization goal is to minimize the objective function, \( f(x) \), while satisfying the constraints. Constraints can be categorized as either linear or nonlinear and as either inequality or equality. The nonlinear inequality constraints, \( g(x) \), are “2-sided,” in that they have both lower and upper bounds, \( g_L \) and \( g_U \), respectively. The nonlinear equality constraints, \( h(x) \), have target values specified by \( h_t \). The linear inequality constraints create a linear system \( A_i x \), where \( A_i \) is the coefficient matrix for the linear system. These constraints are also 2-sided as they have lower and upper bounds, \( a_L \) and \( a_U \), respectively. The linear equality constraints create a linear system \( A_e x \), where \( A_e \) is the coefficient matrix for the linear system and \( a_t \) are the target values. The constraints partition the parameter space into feasible and infeasible regions. A design point is said to be feasible if and only if it satisfies all of the constraints. Correspondingly, a design point is said to be infeasible if it violates one or more of the constraints.

Many different methods exist to solve the optimization problem given in Section 6.1 of [Adams et al., 2010], all of which iterate on \( x \) in some manner. That is, an initial value for each parameter in \( x \) is chosen, the response quantities, \( f(x), g(x), h(x) \), are computed, often by running a simulation, and some algorithm is applied to generate a new \( x \) that will either reduce the objective function, reduce the amount of infeasibility, or both. To facilitate a general presentation of these methods, three criteria will be used in the following discussion to differentiate them: optimization problem type, search goal, and search method.
The optimization problem type can be characterized both by the types of constraints present in the problem and by the linearity or nonlinearity of the objective and constraint functions. For constraint categorization, a hierarchy of complexity exists for optimization algorithms, ranging from simple bound constraints, through linear constraints, to full nonlinear constraints. By the nature of this increasing complexity, optimization problem categorizations are inclusive of all constraint types up to a particular level of complexity. That is, an unconstrained problem has no constraints, a bound-constrained problem has only lower and upper bounds on the design parameters, a linearly-constrained problem has both linear and bound constraints, and a nonlinearly-constrained problem may contain the full range of nonlinear, linear, and bound constraints. If all of the linear and nonlinear constraints are equality constraints, then this is referred to as an equality-constrained problem, and if all of the linear and nonlinear constraints are inequality constraints, then this is referred to as an inequality-constrained problem. Further categorizations can be made based on the linearity of the objective and constraint functions. A problem where the objective function and all constraints are linear is called a linear programming (LP) problem. These types of problems commonly arise in scheduling, logistics, and resource allocation applications. Likewise, a problem where at least some of the objective and constraint functions are nonlinear is called a nonlinear programming (NLP) problem. These NLP problems predominate in engineering applications and are the primary focus of Dakota.

The search goal refers to the ultimate objective of the optimization algorithm, i.e., either global or local optimization. In global optimization, the goal is to find the design point that gives the lowest feasible objective function value over the entire parameter space. In contrast, in local optimization, the goal is to find a design point that is lowest relative to a “nearby” region of the parameter space. In almost all cases, global optimization will be more computationally expensive than local optimization. Thus, the user must choose an optimization algorithm with an appropriate search scope that best fits the problem goals and the computational budget.

The search method refers to the approach taken in the optimization algorithm to locate a new design point that has a lower objective function or is more feasible than the current design point. The search method can be classified as either gradient-based or nongradient-based. In a gradient-based algorithm, gradients of the response functions are computed to find the direction of improvement. Gradient-based optimization is the search method that underlies many efficient local optimization methods. However, a drawback to this approach is that gradients can be computationally expensive, inaccurate, or even nonexistent. In such situations, nongradient-based search methods may be useful. There are numerous approaches to nongradient-based optimization. Some of the more well known of these include pattern search methods (nongradient-based local techniques) and genetic algorithms (nongradient-based global techniques).

Because of the computational cost of running simulation models, surrogate-based optimization (SBO) methods are often used to reduce the number of actual simulation runs. In SBO, a surrogate or approximate model is constructed based on a limited number of simulation runs. The optimization is then performed on the surrogate model. Dakota has an extensive framework for managing a variety of local, multipoint, global, and hierarchical surrogates for use in optimization. Finally, sometimes there are multiple objectives that one may want to optimize simultaneously instead of a single scalar objective. In this case, one may employ multi-objective methods that are described in Section 6.3.1 of [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]').

This overview of optimization approaches underscores that no single optimization method or algorithm works best for all types of optimization problems. Section 6.4 of [[4] "Adams et al., 2010’"] offers guidelines for choosing a Dakota optimization algorithm best matched to your specific optimization problem.

Constraint Considerations Dakota’s input commands permit the user to specify two-sided nonlinear inequality constraints of the form $g_{L_i} \leq g_i(x) \leq g_{U_i}$, as well as nonlinear equality constraints of the form $h_j(x) = h_{i_j}$. Some optimizers (e.g., npsol, optpp, soga, and moga methods) can handle these constraint forms directly, whereas other optimizers (e.g., asynch_pattern_search, dot, and conmin, mesh_adaptive_search) require Dakota to perform an internal conversion of all constraints to one-sided inequality constraints of the form $g_i(x) \leq 0$. In the latter case, the two-sided inequality constraints are treated as $g_i(x) - g_{L_i} \leq 0$ and $g_{U_i} - g_i(x) \leq 0$ and the equality constraints are treated as $h_j(x) - h_{i_j} \leq 0$ and $h_{i_j} - h_j(x) \leq 0$. The
situation is similar for linear constraints: `asynch_pattern_search`, `npsol`, `optpp`, `soga`, and `moga` methods support them directly, whereas `dot` and `conmin` methods do not. For linear inequalities of the form \( a_L \leq a^T_i x \leq a_U_i \) and linear equalities of the form \( a^T_i x = a_{t_j} \), the nonlinear constraint arrays in `dot` and `conmin` methods are further augmented to include \( a^T_i x - a_{U_i} \leq 0 \) and \( a_{L_i} - a^T_i x \leq 0 \) in the inequality case and \( a^T_i x - a_{L_i} \leq 0 \) and \( a_{U_i} - a^T_i x \leq 0 \) in the equality case. Awareness of these constraint augmentation procedures can be important for understanding the diagnostic data returned from the `dot` and `conmin` methods. Other optimizers fall somewhere in between. `nlpql` methods support nonlinear equality constraints \( h_j(x) = 0 \) and nonlinear one-sided inequalities \( g_i(x) \geq 0 \), but does not natively support linear constraints. Constraint mappings are used with NLPQL for both linear and nonlinear cases. Most `coliny` methods now support two-sided nonlinear inequality constraints and nonlinear constraints with targets, but do not natively support linear constraints.

When gradient and Hessian information is used in the optimization, derivative components are most commonly computed with respect to the active continuous variables, which in this case are the **continuous design variables**. This differs from parameter study methods (for which all continuous variables are active) and from nondeterministic analysis methods (for which the uncertain variables are active). Refer to Chapter 11 of [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information on derivative components and active continuous variables.

### Optimizing with Dakota: Choosing a Method

This section summarizes the optimization methods available in Dakota. We group them according to search method and search goal and establish their relevance to types of problems. For a summary of this discussion, see Section 6.4 of [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"].

#### Gradient-Based Local Methods

Gradient-based optimizers are best suited for efficient navigation to a local minimum in the vicinity of the initial point. They are not intended to find global optima in nonconvex design spaces. For global optimization methods, see Section 6.2.3 of [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]: Gradient-based optimization methods are highly efficient, with the best convergence rates of all of the local optimization methods, and are the methods of choice when the problem is smooth, unimodal, and well-behaved. However, these methods can be among the least robust when a problem exhibits nonsmooth, discontinuous, or multimodal behavior. The derivative-free methods described in Section 6.2.2 of [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] are more appropriate for problems with these characteristics.

Gradient accuracy is a critical factor for gradient-based optimizers, as inaccurate derivatives will often lead to failures in the search or pre-mature termination of the method. Analytic gradients and Hessians are ideal but often unavailable. If analytic gradient and Hessian information can be provided by an application code, a full Newton method will achieve quadratic convergence rates near the solution. If only gradient information is available and the Hessian information is approximated from an accumulation of gradient data, the superlinear convergence rates can be obtained. It is most often the case for engineering applications, however, that a finite difference method will be used by the optimization algorithm to estimate gradient values. Dakota allows the user to select the step size for these calculations, as well as choose between forward-difference and central-difference algorithms. The finite difference step size should be selected as small as possible, to allow for local accuracy and convergence, but not so small that the steps are “in the noise.” This requires an assessment of the local smoothness of the response functions using, for example, a parameter study method. Central differencing will generally produce more reliable gradients than forward differencing but at roughly twice the expense.

Gradient-based methods for nonlinear optimization problems can be described as iterative processes in which a sequence of subproblems, usually which involve an approximation to the full nonlinear problem, are solved until the solution converges to a local optimum of the full problem. The optimization methods available in Dakota fall into several categories, each of which is characterized by the nature of the subproblems solved at each iteration.
5.7. METHODS

Related Topics

- local_optimization_methods
- global_optimization_methods
- bayesian_calibration
- nonlinear_least_squares
- advanced_optimization

Related Keywords

- dl_solver: (Experimental) Dynamically-loaded solver

5.7.9 local_optimization_methods

Description

empty

Related Topics

- unconstrained
- constrained
- sequential_quadratic_programming

Related Keywords

- coliny_cobyla: Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA)
- nlpql_sqp: Sequential Quadratic Program
- nonlinear_cg: (Experimental) nonlinear conjugate gradient optimization
- npsol_sqp: Sequential Quadratic Program
- optpp_cg: A conjugate gradient optimization method
- optpp_fd_newton: Finite Difference Newton optimization method
- optpp_g_newton: Newton method based least-squares calibration
- optpp_newton: Newton method based optimization
- optpp_q_newton: Quasi-Newton optimization method

unconstrained

Description

empty
Related Topics

Related Keywords

constrained

Description

empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **coliny_cobyla**: Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA)

sequential_quadratic_programming

Description

Sequential Quadratic Programming (SQP) algorithms are a class of mathematical programming problems used to solve nonlinear optimization problems with nonliner constraints. These methods are a generalization of Newton’s method: each iteration involves minimizing a quadratic model of the problem. These subproblems are formulated as minimizing a quadratic approximation of the Lagrangian subject to linearized constraints. Only gradient information is required; Hessians are approximated by low-rank updates defined by the step taken at each iteration. It is important to note that while the solution found by an SQP method will respect the constraints, the intermediate iterates may not. SQP methods available in Dakota are `dot_sqp`, `nlpql_sqp`, `nlssol_sqp`, and `npsol_sqp`. The particular implementation in `nlpql_sqp` uses a variant with distributed and non-monotone line search. Thus, this variant is designed to be more robust in the presence of inaccurate or noisy gradients common in many engineering applications.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **nlpql_sqp**: Sequential Quadratic Program
- **nlssol_sqp**: Sequential Quadratic Program for nonlinear least squares
- **npsol_sqp**: Sequential Quadratic Program

5.7.10  global_optimization_methods

Description

empty

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **asynch_pattern_search**: Pattern search, derivative free optimization method
- **coliny_direct**: DIviding RECTangles method
5.7. METHODS

- **coliny_ea**: Evolutionary Algorithm
- **coliny_pattern_search**: Pattern search, derivative free optimization method
- **efficient_global**: Global Surrogate Based Optimization, a.k.a. EGO
- **ncsu_direct**: DIviding RECTangles method
- **soga**: Single-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a Evolutionary Algorithm)

### 5.7.11 Bayesian Calibration

**Description**

We have three preliminary implementations of Bayesian calibration methods in Dakota, where a “prior distribution” on a parameter is updated through a Bayesian framework involving experimental data and a likelihood function. The theory behind Bayesian methods is best described in other sources [56] and only a brief summary is given here. In Bayesian methods, uncertain parameters are characterized by probability density functions. These probability densities functions define the permissible parameter values - the support, as well as the relative plausibility of each permissible parameter value. In the context of calibration or any inference step, the probability density function that describes knowledge before the incorporation of data is called the prior, $f_\Theta(\theta)$. When data is available, the likelihood function describes how well each parameter value is supported by the data. Bayes Theorem [54], shown in Equation eqnBayesThm, is used for inference: to derive the plausible parameter values, based on the prior probability density and the data $d$. The result is the posterior parameter density of the parameters $f_{\Theta|D}(\theta|d)$. It is interpreted the same way as the prior, but includes the information derived from the data.

$$f_{\Theta|D}(\theta|d) = \frac{f_\Theta(\theta)L(\theta;d)}{f_D(d)}$$

The likelihood function is used to describe how well a model’s predictions are supported by the data. The likelihood function can be written generally as:

$$L(\theta;d) = f(M(\theta) - d)$$

where $\theta$ are the parameters of model $M$. The function $f$ can greatly influence the results. The specific likelihood functions used in this example were based on Gaussian probability density functions. This means that we assume the difference between the model (e.g. computer simulation) and the experimental observations are Gaussian:

$$d_i = M(\theta) + \epsilon_i,$$

where $\epsilon_i$ is a random variable that can encompass both measurement errors on $d_i$ and modeling errors associated with the simulation $M(\theta)$. We further assume that all experiments and observations are independent. If we have $n$ observations, the probabilistic model defined by Eq. (TODO BAD REF ref eq:model) results in a likelihood function for $\theta$ that is the product of $n$ normal probability density functions as shown in Equation eqnLikelihood.

$$L(\theta;d) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left[ -\frac{(d_i - M(\theta))^2}{2\sigma^2} \right]$$

Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) is the standard method used to compute posterior parameter densities, given the observational data and the priors. There are many references that describe the basic algorithm [32], and in addition, the algorithms are an active research area. One variation used in Dakota is DRAM: Delayed Rejection and Adaptive Metropolis [39]. Note that MCMC algorithms take tens or hundreds of thousands of
steps to converge. Since each iteration involves an evaluation of the model $\mathcal{M}(\theta)$, often surrogate models of the simulation model are employed.

As mentioned above, we have three implementations of a Bayesian calibration: one called QUESO, one called DREAM, and one called GPMSA. They are specified with the `bayes_calibration queso` or `bayes_calibration dream` or `bayes_calibration gpmsa`, respectively. The QUESO method uses components from the QUESO library (Quantification of Uncertainty for Estimation, Simulation, and Optimization) developed at The University of Texas at Austin. DREAM uses the DREAM code developed by John Burkardt. It is based on the DiffeRential Evolution Adaptive Metropolis approach which runs multiple different chains simultaneously for global exploration, and automatically tunes the proposal covariance during the process by a self-adaptive randomized subspace sampling [87]. The GPMSA calibration capability uses the GPMSA code developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

In the QUESO method, the user can run the MCMC sampling with the simulation model $\mathcal{M}(\theta)$ directly. However, if the model is expensive, we recommend that the user employs a surrogate model (an emulator) because the Monte Carlo Markov Chain will be much faster: the MCMC can generate thousands of samples on the emulator more quickly. One can specify a Gaussian process, a polynomial chaos expansion or a stochastic collocation as the emulator for the `queso` method. The specification details for these are listed in the Reference Manual. One can also specify various settings for the MCMC DRAM sampling: the sampling can use a standard Metropolis-Hastings algorithm or the adaptive Metropolis in which the covariance of the proposal density is updated adaptively. There is also a setting to control the delayed rejection. Finally, there are two scale factors which control the scaling of the problem. The `likelihood_scale` is a number which scales the likelihood by dividing the log of the likelihood (e.g. dividing the sum of squared differences between the experimental data and simulation data or SSE). This is useful for situations with very small likelihoods (e.g. the model is either very far away from the data or there is a lot of data so the likelihood function involves multiplying many likelihoods together, where the SSE term is large and the likelihood becomes very small). In some respects, the `likelihood_scale` can be seen as a normalizing factor for the SSE. If the SSE is large, the likelihood scale should be large. The second factor is a `proposal_covariance_scale` which is a vector that controls the scaling of the proposal covariance in the different input directions. This may be useful when the input variables being calibrated are of different magnitudes: one may want to take a larger step in a direction with a larger magnitude, for example.

For the DREAM method, one can define the number of chains used with `chains`. The total number of generations per chain in DREAM is the number of samples divided by the number of chains. The minimum number of chains is three. The number of chains randomly selected to be used in the crossover each time a crossover occurs is `crossover_chain_pairs`. There is an extra adaptation during burn-in, in which DREAM estimates a distribution of crossover probabilities that favors large jumps over smaller ones in each of the chains. Normalization is required to ensure that all of the input dimensions contribute equally. In this process, a discrete number of candidate points for each crossover value is generated. This parameter is `num_crs`. The `gr_threshold` is the convergence tolerance for the Gelman-Rubin statistic which will govern the convergence of the multiple chain process. The integer `jump_step` forces a long jump every `jump_step` generations. For more details about these parameters, see[87].

GPMSA is another code that provides the capability for Bayesian calibration. A key part of GPMSA is the construction of an emulator from simulation runs collected at various settings of input parameters. The emulator is a statistical model of the system response, and it is used to incorporate the observational data to improve system predictions and constrain or calibrate the unknown parameters. The GPMSA code draws heavily on the theory developed in the seminal Bayesian calibration paper by Kennedy and O’Hagan[56]. The particular approach developed by the Los Alamos group is provided in[48]. GPMSA uses Gaussian process models in the emulation, but the emulator is actually a set of basis functions (e.g. from a singular value decomposition) which have GPs as the coefficients. One major difference between GPMSA and the QUESO implementation in Dakota is that the QUESO implementation does not have an explicit “discrepancy” function $\delta$ which models the difference between the simulation and the observational data results in addition to the error term $\epsilon$, but GPMSA has a sophisticated model for the discrepancy term. At this point, the GPMSA implementation in Dakota is an early prototype.
5.7. METHODS

At this point, the GPMSA library is a standalone C++ library which has its own methods to create Gaussian process models, perform MCMC updating, etc. The GPMSA C++ library is an alpha-version and undergoing development, so a user is cautioned to obtain the latest version (e.g. Version-of-the-Day) to have the latest updates. We expect that future Dakota-GPMSA integration will involve more interoperability and sharing of optimization algorithms and surrogate models between Dakota and GPMSA, for example.

We briefly describe the process of running QUESO from Dakota. The user will create a Dakota input file such as the one shown in figUQ18. Note that the method is bayes_calibration queso, specifying the QUESO algorithm. The number of samples indicates the number of samples that the MCMC algorithm will take, in this case 5000 (this usually will need to be larger). For this example, we are using the text_book analytic example, so we do not need to specify an emulator, but the lines commented out give an idea of the options if the user wanted to specify an emulator. This example is using the full DRAM (delayed rejection adaptive metropolis). The likelihood is scaled, but the proposal covariance is not unless the user uncomments that line. The calibration terms in the responses section refers to the number of outputs that will be used in the calibration process: in this case, it is just one. The calibration data file has the observational data: in this case, it is a freeform file (e.g. no header or annotation) with ten experiments. For each experiment, there is one standard deviation value indicating the error associated with that experiment.

```
strategy,
    single_method
tabular_data

method,
    bayes_calibration queso
# emulator
# gp
# emulator_samples = 50
# points_file = 'ros.txt' freeform
# pce
# sparse_grid_level = 3
# samples = 5000 #seed = 348
# rejection delayed
# metropolis adaptive
# likelihood_scale = 100.0
# output verbose
# proposal_covariance_scale = 0.1 0.3

variables,
    continuous_design = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0. upper_bounds = 3. 3.
    initial_point = 1. 1.

interface,
    direct
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses,
    calibration_terms = 1
    calibration_data_file = 'dakota_queso.test10.txt'
    freeform
    num_experiments = 1
    num_replicates = 10
    num_std_deviations = 1
    no_gradients
    no_hessians
```

When the input file shown in figUQ18 is run, Dakota will run the MCMC algorithm and generate a posterior sample of $\theta$ in accordance with Bayes Theorem eqnBayesThm and the likelihood function eqnLikelihood. The
CHAPTER 5. TOPICS AREA

MCMC sample output is put into a directory called outputData in the directory from which Dakota is run. In addition, the MCMC sample chain is written to a file in the run directory called QuesoOutput.txt. The first columns of this file are the sample inputs, the next columns are the responses, and the final column is the log of the likelihood.

We expect to continue development of Bayesian calibration methods, so check for updates to this capability. The QUESO and GPMSA capabilities in Dakota currently rely on the QUESO library developed by The University of Texas at Austin. This integrated capability is still in prototype form and available to close collaborators of the Dakota team. DREAM is distributed with Dakota. If you are interested in these capabilities, contact the Dakota developers at dakota-developers@development.sandia.gov.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- bayes_calibration : Bayesian calibration
- dream : DREAM (DiffeRential Evolution Adaptive Metropolis)
- chains : Number of chains in DREAM
- crossover_chain_pairs : Number of chains used in crossover.
- gr_threshold : Convergence tolerance for the Gelman-Rubin statistic
- jump_step : Number of generations a long jump step is taken
- num_cr : Number of candidate points for each crossover.
- gpmsa : (Experimental) Gaussian Process Models for Simulation Analysis (GPMSA) Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm with Gaussian Process Surrogate
- mcmc_type : (Experimental) Type of MCMC algorithm used (dram or multilevel).
- dram : (Experimental) Specification of DRAM as the MCMC type in GPMSA
- delayed : Select delayed rejection
- multilevel : (Experimental) Specification of multilevel sampling as the MCMC type in GPMSA.
- proposal_covariance_scale : Provide values for the diagonals of the proposal covariance matrix.
- queso : Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithms from the QUESO package
- mcmc_type : Type of MCMC algorithm used (dram or multilevel).
- dram : MCMC type
- adaptive : Type of Metropolis algorithm
- delayed : Select delayed rejection
- multilevel : Type of MCMC algorithm
- proposal_covariance_scale : Provide values for the diagonals of the proposal covariance matrix.
5.7.12 nonlinear_least_squares

Description

Dakota’s least squares branch currently contains three methods for solving nonlinear least squares problems:

- **NL2SOL**, a trust-region method that adaptively chooses between two Hessian approximations (Gauss-Newton and Gauss-Newton plus a quasi-Newton approximation to the rest of the Hessian)
- **NLSSOL**, a sequential quadratic programming (SQP) approach that is from the same algorithm family as NPSOL
- **Gauss-Newton**, which supplies the Gauss-Newton Hessian approximation to the full-Newton optimizers from OPT++.

The important difference of these algorithms from general-purpose optimization methods is that the response set is defined by calibration terms (e.g. separate terms for each residual), rather than an objective function. Thus, a finer granularity of data is used by least squares solvers as compared to that used by optimizers. This allows the exploitation of the special structure provided by a sum of squares objective function.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **nl2sol**: Trust-region method for nonlinear least squares
- **nlssol_sqp**: Sequential Quadratic Program for nonlinear least squares

5.7.13 advanced_optimization

Description

empty

Related Topics

- **scaling**
- **multiobjective_methods**
- **surrogate_based_optimization_methods**

Related Keywords

**scaling**

Description

empty
Related Topics
Related Keywords
multiobjective_methods
Description
empty

Related Topics
Related Keywords
surrogate_based_optimization_methods
Description
empty

Related Topics
Related Keywords
- efficient_global : Global Surrogate Based Optimization, a.k.a. EGO
- surrogate_based_global : Global Surrogate Based Optimization
- surrogate_based_local : Local Surrogate Based Optimization

5.8 advanced_topics
Description
Advanced Dakota capabilities

Related Topics
- advanced_strategies
- advanced_model_recursion
- advanced_simulation_interfaces
- advanced_optimization

Related Keywords
5.8.1 advanced_strategies
Description
empty
5.8. ADVANCED_TOPICS

5.8.2 advanced_model_recursion

Description
empty

Related Topics
- hybrid_and_recursions_logic

Related Keywords
hybrid_and_recursions_logic

5.8.3 advanced_simulation_interfaces

Description
empty

Related Topics
- simulation_failure
- concurrency_and_parallelism

Related Keywords
simulation_failure

Related Topics

Related Keywords
concurrency_and_parallelism
CHAPTER 5. TOPICS AREA

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- **processors_per_analysis**: Specify the number of processors per analysis when Dakota is run in parallel
- **analysis_scheduling**: Specify the scheduling of concurrent analyses when Dakota is run in parallel
- **master**: Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel analysis scheduling
- **peer**: Specify a peer partition for parallel analysis scheduling
- **analysis_servers**: Specify the number of analysis servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- **asynchronous**: Specify analysis driver concurrency, when Dakota is run in serial
- **analysis_concurrency**: Limit the number of analysis drivers within an evaluation that Dakota will schedule
- **evaluation_concurrency**: Determine how many concurrent evaluations Dakota will schedule
- **local_evaluation_scheduling**: Control how local asynchronous jobs are scheduled
- **master**: Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel evaluation scheduling
- **peer**: Specify a peer partition for parallel evaluation scheduling
- **dynamic**: Specify dynamic scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.
- **static**: Specify static scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.
- **evaluation_servers**: Specify the number of evaluation servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- **processors_per_evaluation**: Specify the number of processors per evaluation server when Dakota is run in parallel
- **iterator_scheduling**: Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
- **master**: Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- **peer**: Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- **iterator_servers**: Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- **processors_per_iterator**: Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel
- **iterator_scheduling**: Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
- **master**: Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- **peer**: Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
5.8. ADVANCED TOPICS

- **iterator_servers**: Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- **processors_per_iterator**: Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel
- **iterator_scheduling**: Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
- **master**: Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- **peer**: Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
- **iterator_servers**: Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
- **processors_per_iterator**: Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

### 5.8.4 advanced_optimization

**Description**
empty

**Related Topics**
- **scaling**
- **multiobjective_methods**
- **surrogate_based_optimization_methods**

**Related Keywords**

**scaling**

**Description**
empty

**Related Topics**
**Related Keywords**

**multiobjective_methods**

**Description**
empty

**Related Topics**
**Related Keywords**

**surrogate_based_optimization_methods**

**Description**
empty
Related Topics

Related Keywords
- efficient_global : Global Surrogate Based Optimization, a.k.a. EGO
- surrogate_based_global : Global Surrogate Based Optimization
- surrogate_based_local : Local Surrogate Based Optimization

5.9 packages

Description
This topic organizes information about the different software packages (libraries) that are integrated into Dakota

Related Topics
- package_coliny
- package_conmin
- package_ddace
- package_dot
- package_fsudace
- package_hopspack
- package_jega
- package_nlpql
- package_npsol
- package_optpp
- package_psuade
- package_queso
- package_scolib

Related Keywords

5.9.1 package_coliny

Description
SCOLIB (formerly known as COLINY) is a collection of nongradient-based optimizers that support the Common Optimization Library INterface (COLIN). SCOLIB optimizers currently include coliny_cobyla, coliny_direct, coliny_ea, coliny_pattern_search and coliny_solis_wets. (Yes, the input spec still has "coliny" prepended to the method name.) Additional SCOLIB information is available from https://software.sandia.gov/trac/acro.
SCOLIB solvers now support bound constraints and general nonlinear constraints. Supported nonlinear constraints include both equality and two-sided inequality constraints. SCOLIB solvers do not yet support linear constraints. Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds $\text{constraint\_penalty}$ times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. Specific exceptions to this method for handling constraint violations are noted below. (The default value of $\text{constraint\_penalty}$ is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.)

The method independent controls for max_iterations and max_function_evaluations limit the number of major iterations and the number of function evaluations that can be performed during a SCOLIB optimization, respectively. The convergence_tolerance control defines the threshold value on relative change in the objective function that indicates convergence. The output verbosity specification controls the amount of information generated by SCOLIB: the silent, quiet, and normal settings correspond to minimal reporting from SCOLIB, whereas the verbose setting corresponds to a higher level of information, and debug outputs method initialization and a variety of internal SCOLIB diagnostics. The majority of SCOLIB’s methods perform independent function evaluations that can directly take advantage of Dakota’s parallel capabilities. Only coliny.solis.wets, coliny.cobyla, and certain configurations of coliny_pattern_search are inherently serial. The parallel methods automatically utilize parallel logic when the Dakota configuration supports parallelism. Lastly, neither speculative gradients nor linear constraints are currently supported with SCOLIB.

Some SCOLIB methods exploit parallelism through the use of Dakota’s concurrent function evaluations. The nature of the algorithms, however, limits the amount of concurrency that can be exploited. The maximum amount of evaluation concurrency that can be leveraged by the various methods is as follows:

- COBYLA: one
- DIRECT: twice the number of variables
- Evolutionary Algorithms: size of the population
- Pattern Search: size of the search pattern
- Solis-Wets: one

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

Each of the SCOLIB methods supports the solution_target control, which defines a convergence criterion in which the optimizer will terminate if it finds an objective function value lower than the specified target.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- coliny_beta: (Experimental) Coliny beta solver
- coliny_cobyla: Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA)
- coliny_direct: DIviding RECTangles method
• coliny_ea : Evolutionary Algorithm

• coliny_pattern_search : Pattern search, derivative free optimization method

• coliny_solis_wets : Simple greedy local search method

5.9.2 package_conmin

Description
The CONMIN library [84] "Vanderplaats, 1973" is a public domain library of nonlinear programming optimizers, specifically the Fletcher-Reeves conjugate gradient (Dakota’s conmin_frcg method) method for unconstrained optimization, and the method of feasible directions (Dakota’s conmin_mfd method) for constrained optimization. As CONMIN was a predecessor to the DOT commercial library, the algorithm controls are very similar.

Related Topics

Related Keywords
• conmin : Access to methods in the CONMIN library
• frcg : A conjugate gradient optimization method
• mfd : Method of feasible directions

5.9.3 package_ddace

Description
The Distributed Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments (DDACE) library provides the following DA-CE techniques: grid sampling (grid), pure random sampling (random), orthogonal array sampling (oas), latin hypercube sampling (lhs), orthogonal array latin hypercube sampling (oa_lhs), Box-Behnken (box_behnken), and central composite design (central_composite).

It is worth noting that there is some overlap in sampling techniques with those available from the nondeterministic branch. The current distinction is that the nondeterministic branch methods are designed to sample within a variety of probability distributions for uncertain variables, whereas the design of experiments methods treat all variables as having uniform distributions. As such, the design of experiments methods are well-suited for performing parametric studies and for generating data sets used in building global approximations, but are not currently suited for assessing the effect of uncertainties characterized with probability distribution. If a design of experiments over both design/state variables (treated as uniform) and uncertain variables (with probability distributions) is desired, then sampling can support this with active all specified in the Variables specification block.

Related Topics

Related Keywords
• dace : Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments
5.9. **PACKAGES**

### 5.9.4 *package_dot*

**Description**

The DOT library [[86] "Vanderplaats Research and Development, 1995"] contains nonlinear programming optimizers, specifically the Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (Dakota’s dot.bfgs method) and Fletcher-Reeves conjugate gradient (Dakota’s dot.frcg method) methods for unconstrained optimization, and the modified method of feasible directions (Dakota’s dot.mmf method), sequential linear programming (Dakota’s dot.slp method), and sequential quadratic programming (Dakota’s dot.sqp method) methods for constrained optimization.

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

- **dot**: Access to methods in the DOT package
- **bfgs**: A conjugate gradient optimization method
- **frcg**: A conjugate gradient optimization method
- **mmfd**: Method of feasible directions
- **slp**: Sequential Linear Programming
- **sqp**: Sequential Quadratic Program

### 5.9.5 *package_fsudace*

**Description**

The Florida State University Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments (FSUDace) library provides the following DACE techniques: quasi-Monte Carlo sampling (fsu.quasi.mc) based on the Halton sequence (halton) or the Hammersley sequence (hammersley), and Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation (fsu.cvt).

**Related Topics**

**Related Keywords**

- **quality_metrics**: Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples
- **fsu.cvt**: Design of Computer Experiments - Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation
- **quality_metrics**: Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples
- **halton**: Generate samples from a Halton sequence
- **fsu.quasi.mc**: Design of Computer Experiments - Quasi-Monte Carlo sampling
- **halton**: Generate samples from a Halton sequence
- **hammersley**: Use Hammersley sequences
- **quality_metrics**: Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples
5.9.6 package hopspack

Description

The HOPSPACK software [[70] "Plantenga, 2009"] contains the asynchronous parallel pattern search (APPS) algorithm [[37] "Gray and Kolda, 2006"]. It can handle unconstrained problems as well as those with bound constraints, linear constraints, and general nonlinear constraints.

HOPSPACK is available to the public under the GNU LGPL and the source code is included with Dakota. HOPSPACK-specific software documentation is available from [https://software.sandia.gov/trac/hopspack](https://software.sandia.gov/trac/hopspack).

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- `asynch_pattern_search` : Pattern search, derivative free optimization method

5.9.7 package jega

Description

The JEGA library [[18] "Eddy and Lewis, 2001"] contains two global optimization methods. The first is a Multi-objective Genetic Algorithm (MOGA) which performs Pareto optimization. The second is a Single-objective Genetic Algorithm (SOGA) which performs optimization on a single objective function. Both methods support general constraints and a mixture of real and discrete variables. The JEGA library was written by John Eddy, currently a member of the technical staff in the System Readiness and Sustainment Technologies department at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque. These algorithms are accessed as `moga` and `soga` within Dakota.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- `moga` : Multi-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a Evolutionary Algorithm)
- `soga` : Single-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a Evolutionary Algorithm)

5.9.8 package nlpql

Description

The NLPQL library is a commercially-licensed library containing a sequential quadratic programming (SQP) optimizer, specified as Dakota’s `nlpql_sqp` method, for constrained optimization. The particular implementation used is NLPQLP [[75] "Schittkowski, 2004"], a variant with distributed and non-monotone line search.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- `nlpql_sqp` : Sequential Quadratic Program
5.9. PACKAGES

5.9.9 package npsol

Description
The NPSOL library [33] "Gill et al., 1986" contains a sequential quadratic programming (SQP) implementation (the npsol_sqp method). SQP is a nonlinear programming optimizer for constrained minimization.

Related Topics
Related Keywords
- npsol_sqp : Sequential Quadratic Program

5.9.10 package optpp

Description
The OPT++ library [61] "Meza et al., 2007" contains primarily gradient-based nonlinear programming optimizers for unconstrained, bound-constrained, and nonlinearly constrained minimization: Polak-Ribiere conjugate gradient (Dakota’s optpp_cg method), quasi-Newton (Dakota’s optpp_q_newton method), finite difference Newton (Dakota’s optpp_fd_newton method), and full Newton (Dakota’s optpp_newton method).

The conjugate gradient method is strictly unconstrained, and each of the Newton-based methods are automatically bound to the appropriate OPT++ algorithm based on the user constraint specification (unconstrained, bound-constrained, or generally-constrained). In the generally-constrained case, the Newton methods use a non-linear interior-point approach to manage the constraints. The library also contains a direct search algorithm, PDS (parallel direct search, Dakota’s optpp_pds method), which supports bound constraints.

Method Independent Controls
These are specified directly under the method block.

1. max_iterations
2. max_function_evaluations
3. convergence_tolerance
4. output
5. speculative

Concurrency
OPT++’s gradient-based methods are not parallel algorithms and cannot directly take advantage of concurrent function evaluations. However, if numerical_gradients with method_source dakota is specified, a parallel Dakota configuration can utilize concurrent evaluations for the finite difference gradient computations.

Constraints
Linear constraint specifications are supported by each of the Newton methods (optpp_newton, optpp_q_newton, optpp_fd_newton, and optpp_pds_newton)
- optpp_cg must be unconstrained
- optpp_pds can be, at most, bound-constrained.
CHAPTER 5. TOPICS AREA

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- optpp.cg : A conjugate gradient optimization method
- optpp_fd_newton : Finite Difference Newton optimization method
- optpp_g_newton : Newton method based least-squares calibration
- optpp_newton : Newton method based optimization
- optpp_pds : Simplex-based derivative free optimization method
- optpp_q_newton : Quasi-Newton optimization method

5.9.11 package_psuade

Description

The Problem Solving Environment for Uncertainty Analysis and Design Exploration (PSUADE) is a Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory tool for metamodeling, sensitivity analysis, uncertainty quantification, and optimization. Its features include non-intrusive and parallel function evaluations, sampling and analysis methods, an integrated design and analysis framework, global optimization, numerical integration, response surfaces (MARS and higher order regressions), graphical output with Pglot or Matlab, and fault tolerance [82] “C.H. Tong, 2005”.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- psuade_moat : Morris One-at-a-Time

5.9.12 package_queso

Description

QUESO stands for Quantification of Uncertainty for Estimation, Simulation, and Optimization. It supports Bayesian calibration methods. It is developed at The University of Texas at Austin.

Related Topics

Related Keywords

- bayes_calibration : Bayesian calibration
- gpmmsa : (Experimental) Gaussian Process Models for Simulation Analysis (GPMSA) Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm with Gaussian Process Surrogate
- qesm : Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithms from the QUESO package
5.9. PACKAGES

5.9.13 package_scolib

Description

SCOLIB (formerly known as COLINY) is a collection of nongradient-based optimizers that support the Common Optimization Library Interface (COLIN). SCOLIB optimizers currently include coliny_cobyla, coliny_direct, coliny_ea, coliny_pattern_search and coliny_solis_wets. (Yes, the input spec still has "coliny" prepended to the method name.) Additional SCOLIB information is available from https://software.sandia.gov/trac/acro.

SCOLIB solvers now support bound constraints and general nonlinear constraints. Supported nonlinear constraints include both equality and two-sided inequality constraints. SCOLIB solvers do not yet support linear constraints. Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds constraint_penalty times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. Specific exceptions to this method for handling constraint violations are noted below. (The default value of constraint_penalty is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.)

The method independent controls for max_iterations and max_function_evaluations limit the number of major iterations and the number of function evaluations that can be performed during a SCOLIB optimization, respectively. The convergence_tolerance control defines the threshold value on relative change in the objective function that indicates convergence. The output verbosity specification controls the amount of information generated by SCOLIB: the silent, quiet, and normal settings correspond to minimal reporting from SCOLIB, whereas the verbose setting corresponds to a higher level of information, and debug outputs method initialization and a variety of internal SCOLIB diagnostics. The majority of SCOLIB’s methods perform independent function evaluations that can directly take advantage of Dakota’s parallel capabilities. Only colinySolisWets, colinyCobyla, and certain configurations of colinyPatternSearch are inherently serial. The parallel methods automatically utilize parallel logic when the Dakota configuration supports parallelism. Lastly, neither speculative gradients nor linear constraints are currently supported with SCOLIB.

Some SCOLIB methods exploit parallelism through the use of Dakota’s concurrent function evaluations. The nature of the algorithms, however, limits the amount of concurrency that can be exploited. The maximum amount of evaluation concurrency that can be leveraged by the various methods is as follows:

- COBYLA: one
- DIRECT: twice the number of variables
- Evolutionary Algorithms: size of the population
- Pattern Search: size of the search pattern
- Solis-Wets: one

All SCOLIB methods support the show_m misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

Each of the SCOLIB methods supports the solution_target control, which defines a convergence criterion in which the optimizer will terminate if it finds an objective function value lower than the specified target.
Related Topics

Related Keywords

- `coliny_beta`: (Experimental) Coliny beta solver
- `coliny_cobyla`: Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA)
- `coliny_direct`: DIviding RECTangles method
- `coliny_ea`: Evolutionary Algorithm
- `coliny_pattern_search`: Pattern search, derivative free optimization method
- `coliny_solis_wets`: Simple greedy local search method
Chapter 6

Keywords Area

This page lists the six blocks. From here, you can navigate to every keyword.

- environment
- method
- model
- variables
- interface
- responses

Introduction to Dakota Keywords

In Dakota, the environment manages execution modes and I/O streams and defines the top-level iterator. Generally speaking, an iterator contains a model and a model contains a set of variables, an interface, and a set of responses. An iterator repeatedly operates on the model to map the variables into responses using the interface. Each of these six components (environment, method, model, variables, interface, and responses) are separate specifications in the user’s input file, and as a whole, determine the study to be performed during an execution of the Dakota software.

A Dakota execution is limited to a single environment, but may involve multiple methods and multiple models. In particular, advanced iterators (i.e., meta- and component-based iterators) and advanced models (i.e., nested and surrogate models) may specialize to include recursions with additional sub-iterations and sub-models. Since each model may contain its own variables, interface, and responses, there may be multiple specifications of the method, model, variables, interface, and responses sections.

Keyword Pages

Every Dakota keyword has its own page in this manual. The page describes:

- Whether the keyword takes ARGUMENTS, and the data type Additional notes about ARGUMENTS can be found here: Specifying Arguments.
- Whether it has an ALIAS
- Which additional keywords can be specified to change its behavior
- Which of these additional keywords are required or optional
- Additional information about how to use the keyword in an input file
6.1 environment

- Keywords Area
- environment

Top-level settings for Dakota execution

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>check</td>
<td>check</td>
<td>Invoke Dakota in input check mode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>output_file</td>
<td>output_file</td>
<td>Base filename for output redirection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>error_file</td>
<td>error_file</td>
<td>Base filename for error redirection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>read_restart</td>
<td>read_restart</td>
<td>Base filename for restart file read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>write_restart</td>
<td>write_restart</td>
<td>Base filename for restart file write</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>pre_run</td>
<td>pre_run</td>
<td>Invoke Dakota with pre-run mode active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>run</td>
<td>run</td>
<td>Invoke Dakota with run mode active</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

The environment section in a Dakota input file is optional. It specifies the top-level solution environment, optionally including output controls and identification of the primary iterative method. The output-related keywords address graphics, generation of tabular and results data, and the precision of numerical output.

The **top\_method\_pointer** keyword is typically used in Dakota studies consisting of more than one method block to clearly indicate which is the leading method. This method provides the starting point for the iteration. The corresponding method specification may recur with additional sub-method pointers in the case of "meta-iteration" (see method) or may specify a single method without recursion. Either case will ultimately result in identification of one or more model specifications using model\_pointer, which again may or may not involve further recursion (see nested and surrogate for recursion cases). Each of the model specifications identify the variables and responses specifications (using variables\_pointer and responses\_pointer) that are used to build the model, and depending on the type of model, may also identify an interface specification (for example, using interface\_pointer). If one of these specifications does not provide an optional pointer, then that component will be constructed using the last specification parsed.

When the environment block is omitted, the top level method will be inferred as follows: When a single method is specified, there is no ambiguity and the sole method will be the top method. When multiple methods are specified, the top level method will be deduced from the hierarchical relationships implied by method pointers. If this inference is not well defined (e.g., there are multiple method specifications without any pointer relationship), then the default behavior is to employ the last method specification parsed.

#### 6.1.1 check

- **Keywords Area**

```plaintext
| Optional                      | post_run                        | Invoke Dakota with post-run mode active |
| Optional                      | graphics                        | Display a 2D graphics window of variables and responses |
| Optional                      | tabular\_data                  | Write a tabular results file with variable and response history |
| Optional                      | output\_precision              | Control the output precision |
| Optional                      | results\_output                | (Experimental) Write a summary file containing the final results |
| Optional                      | top\_method\_pointer           | Identify which method leads the Dakota study |
```
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- environment
- check

Invoke Dakota in input check mode

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- command_line_options

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
When specified, Dakota input will be parsed and the problem instantiated. Dakota will exit reporting whether any errors were found.

6.1.2 output_file

- Keywords Area
- environment
- output_file

Base filename for output redirection

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_IO

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
Specify a base filename to which Dakota output will be directed. Output will (necessarily) be redirected after the input file is parsed. This option is overridden by any command-line -output option.
6.1.3 error_file

- Keywords Area
- environment
- error_file

Base filename for error redirection

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- dakota_IO

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
Specify a base filename to which Dakota errors will be directed. Errors will (necessarily) be redirected after the input file is parsed. This option is overridden by any command-line -error option.

6.1.4 read_restart

- Keywords Area
- environment
- read_restart

Base filename for restart file read

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- dakota_IO

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING
### Description
Specify a base filename for the restart file Dakota should read. This option is overridden by any command-line `-read_restart` option.

**stop_restart**
- **Keywords Area**
- **environment**
- **read_restart**
- **stop_restart**

Evaluation ID number at which to stop reading restart file

### Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- **dakota_IO**

### Specification
**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

### Description
This option is overridden by any command-line `-stop_restart` option.

#### 6.1.5 write_restart
- **Keywords Area**
- **environment**
- **write_restart**

Base filename for restart file write

### Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- **dakota_IO**
6.1. ENVIRONMENT

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Specify a base filename for the restart file Dakota should write. This option is overridden by any command-line
-write_restart option.

6.1.6 pre_run

• Keywords Area

• environment

• pre_run

Invoke Dakota with pre-run mode active

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• command_line_options

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>input</td>
<td>Base filename for pre-run mode data input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>output</td>
<td>Base filename for pre-run mode data output</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

When specified, Dakota execution will include the pre-run mode, which sets up methods and often generates parameter sets to evaluate. This mode is currently useful for parameter study, DACE, and Monte Carlo sampling methods.
input

- Keywords Area
- environment
- pre_run
- input

Base filename for pre-run mode data input

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_IO
- command_line_options

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
(For future expansion; not currently used by any methods.) Specify a base filename from which Dakota will read any pre-run input data. This option is overridden by any command-line -pre_run arguments.

output

- Keywords Area
- environment
- pre_run
- output

Base filename for pre-run mode data output

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_IO
- command_line_options

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING
6.1. ENVIRONMENT

Description

Specify a base filename to which Dakota will write any pre-run output data (typically parameter sets to be evaluated). This option is overridden by any command-line -pre_run arguments.

6.1.7 run

- Keywords Area
- environment
- run

Invoke Dakota with run mode active

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- command_line_options

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>input</td>
<td>input</td>
<td>Base filename for run mode data input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>output</td>
<td>output</td>
<td>Base filename for run mode data output</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

When specified, Dakota execution will include the run mode, which invokes interfaces to map parameters to responses.

input

- Keywords Area
- environment
- run
- input

Base filename for run mode data input
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_IO
- command_line_options

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
(For future expansion; not currently used by any methods.) Specify a base filename from which Dakota will read any run input data, such as parameter sets to evaluate. This option is overridden by any command-line -run arguments.

output

- Keywords Area
- environment
- run
- output

Base filename for run mode data output

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_IO
- command_line_options

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
(For future expansion; not currently used by any methods.) Specify a base filename to which Dakota will write any run output data (typically parameter, response pairs). This option is overridden by any command-line -run arguments.
6.1.8 post_run

- Keywords Area
- environment
- post_run

Invoke Dakota with post-run mode active

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- command_line_options

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional   | input                | input         | Base filename for post-run mode data input |
| Optional   | output               | output        | Base filename for post-run mode data output |

Description

When specified, Dakota execution will include the post-run mode, which analyzes parameter/response data sets and computes final results. This mode is currently useful for parameter study, DACE, and Monte Carlo sampling methods.

input

- Keywords Area
- environment
- post_run
- input

Base filename for post-run mode data input

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- dakota_IO
- command_line_options
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Specify a base filename from which Dakota will read any post-run input data, such as parameter/response data on which to calculate final statistics. This option is overridden by any command-line -post_run arguments.

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_IO
- command_line_options

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

(For future expansion; not currently used by any methods.) Specify a base filename to which Dakota will write any post-run output data. This option is overridden by any command-line -post_run arguments.

6.1.9 graphics

- Keywords Area
- environment
- graphics

Display a 2D graphics window of variables and responses

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_output
6.1. **ENVIRONMENT**

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

For most studies, the `graphics` flag activates a 2D graphics window containing history plots for the variables and response functions in the study. This window is updated in an event loop with approximately a 2 second cycle time. Some study types such as surrogate-based optimization or local reliability specialize the use of the graphics window.

There is no dependence between the `graphics` flag and the `tabular_data` flag; they may be used independently or concurrently.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `tabular_data`

6.1.10 **tabular_data**

- Keywords Area
- `environment`
- `tabular_data`

Write a tabular results file with variable and response history

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `dakota_output`

**Specification**

Alias: `tabular_graphics_data`

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tabular_data_file</td>
<td>The name of the tabular data output file</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

Specifying the `tabular_data` flag writes to a data file the same variable and response function history data plotted when using the `graphics` flag. Within the generated data file, the variables and response functions appear as columns and each function evaluation provides a new table row. This capability is most useful for post-processing of Dakota results with third-party graphics tools such as MatLab, Excel, Tecplot, etc.

There is no dependence between the `graphics` flag and the `tabular_data` flag; they may be used independently or concurrently.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `graphics`

`tabular_data_file`

- `Keywords Area`
- `environment`
- `tabular_data`
- `tabular_data_file`

The name of the tabular data output file

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `dakota_output`

Specification

Alias: `tabular_graphics_file`

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The optional `tabular_graphics_file` keyword specifies a name to use for the tabular data file, overriding the default `dakota_tabular.dat`.

6.1.11 output_precision

- `Keywords Area`
- `environment`
- `output_precision`

Control the output precision
6.1. ENVIRONMENT

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• dakota_output

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The precision of numeric output precision can be set with output_precision, with an upper limit of 16. When not specified, most Dakota output will default to a precision of 10, though filesystem interfaces and pre-run output use higher precision for accuracy and better results reproducibility.

6.1.12 results_output

• Keywords Area
• environment
• results_output

(Experimental) Write a summary file containing the final results

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• dakota_output

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>results_output_file</td>
<td>The base file name of the results file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Final results from a Dakota study can be output to dakota_results.txt by specifying results_output (optionally specifying an alternate file name with results_output_filename). The current experimental text file format is hierarchical and a precursor to planned output to structured text formats such as XML or YAML, and binary formats such as HDF5. The contents, organization, and format of results files are all under active development and are subject to change.
results_output_file

- Keywords Area
- environment
- results_output
- results_output_file

The base file name of the results file

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_output

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Default file name is dakota_results.txt

6.1.13 top_method_pointer

- Keywords Area
- environment
- top_method_pointer

Identify which method leads the Dakota study

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: method_pointer

Argument(s): STRING

Description

An optional top_method_pointer specification may be used to point to a particular method specification that will lead the Dakota analysis. The associated string must be a method identifier specified via id_method. If top_method_pointer is not used, then it will be inferred as described in environment (no top_method_pointer within an environment specification is treated the same as no environment specification).
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- id_method

### 6.2 method

- Keywords Area
- method

Begins Dakota method selection and behavioral settings.

#### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block

#### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>id_method</td>
<td></td>
<td>Name the method block; helpful when there are multiple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>output</td>
<td></td>
<td>Control how much method information is written to the screen and output file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_iterations</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on number of iterations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_function_evaluations</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on number of function evaluations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>speculative</td>
<td>Compute speculative gradients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>convergence_-tolerance</td>
<td>Stopping criterion based on convergence of the objective function</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>constraint_-tolerance</td>
<td>The maximum allowable value of constraint violation still considered to be feasible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>scaling</td>
<td>Turn on scaling for variables, responses, and constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>final_solutions</td>
<td>Number of designs returned as the best solutions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required (Choose One)**

- **Group 1**
  - multi_start
  - pareto_set
  - surrogate_based-local
  - surrogate_based-global
  - dot_frcg
  - dot_mmfd
  - dot_bfgs

**Strategy in which a set of methods synergistically seek an optimal design**

**Multi-Start Optimization Method**

**Pareto set optimization**

**Local Surrogate Based Optimization**

**Global Surrogate Based Optimization**

**A conjugate gradient optimization method**

**Method of feasible directions**

**A conjugate gradient optimization method**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dot_slp</td>
<td>Sequential Linear Programming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dot_sqp</td>
<td>Sequential Quadratic Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dot</td>
<td>Access to methods in the DOT package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conmin_frcg</td>
<td>A conjugate gradient optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conmin_mfd</td>
<td>Method of feasible directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conmin</td>
<td>Access to methods in the CONMIN library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dl_solver</td>
<td>(Experimental) Dynamically-loaded solver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>npsol_sqp</td>
<td>Sequential Quadratic Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nlssol_sqp</td>
<td>Sequential Quadratic Program for nonlinear least squares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stanford</td>
<td>Select methods from the Stanford package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nlpql_sqp</td>
<td>Sequential Quadratic Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optpp_cg</td>
<td>A conjugate gradient optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optpp_q_newton</td>
<td>Quasi-Newton optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optpp_fd_newton</td>
<td>Finite Difference Newton optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>optpp.g_newton</td>
<td>Newton method based least-squares calibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optpp_newton</td>
<td>Newton method based optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optpp_pds</td>
<td>Simplex-based derivative free optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>asynch_pattern_search</td>
<td>Pattern search, derivative free optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mesh_adaptive_search</td>
<td>Mesh Adaptive Direct Search Algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moga</td>
<td>Multi-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a. Evolutionary Algorithm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>soga</td>
<td>Single-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a. Evolutionary Algorithm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coliny_pattern_search</td>
<td>Pattern search, derivative free optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coliny_solis_wets</td>
<td>Simple greedy local search method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coliny_cobyla</td>
<td>Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coliny_direct</td>
<td>DIViding RECTangles method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coliny_ea</td>
<td>Evolutionary Algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coliny_beta</td>
<td>(Experimental) Coliny beta solver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nl2sol</td>
<td>Trust-region method for nonlinear least squares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nonlinear_cg</td>
<td>(Experimental) nonlinear conjugate gradient optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ncsu_direct</td>
<td>DIviding RECTangles method</td>
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<tr>
<td>genie_opt_darts</td>
<td>Voronoi-based high-dimensional global Lipschitzian optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>genie_direct</td>
<td>Classical high-dimensional global Lipschitzian optimization</td>
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<tr>
<td>efficient_global</td>
<td>Global Surrogate Based Optimization, a.k.a. EGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>polynomial_chaos</td>
<td>Uncertainty quantification using polynomial chaos expansions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stoch_collocation</td>
<td>Uncertainty quantification with stochastic collocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sampling</td>
<td>Randomly samples variables according to their distributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>importance_-sampling</td>
<td>Importance sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gpais</td>
<td>Gaussian Process Adaptive Importance Sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyword</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>adaptive_sampling</td>
<td>(Experimental) Build a GP surrogate and refine it adaptively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pof_darts</td>
<td>Probability-of-Failure (POF) darts is a novel method for estimating the</td>
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<td>probability of failure based on random sphere-packing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>efficient_subspace</td>
<td>(Experimental) efficient subspace method (ESM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>global_evidence</td>
<td>Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with global optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>global_interval_est</td>
<td>Interval analysis using global optimization methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bayes_calibration</td>
<td>Bayesian calibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dace</td>
<td>Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fsu_cvt</td>
<td>Design of Computer Experiments - Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>psuade_moat</td>
<td>Morris One-at-a-Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>local_evidence</td>
<td>Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with local optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

The `method` keyword signifies the start of a block in the Dakota input file. Said block contains the various keywords necessary to specify a method and to control its behavior.

Method Block Requirements

At least one `method` block must appear in the Dakota input file. Multiple `method` blocks may be needed to fully define advanced analysis approaches.

Each `method` block must specify one method and, optionally, any associated keywords that govern the behavior of the method.

The Methods

Each `method` block must select one method.

Starting with Dakota v6.0, the methods are grouped into two types: standard methods and multi-component methods.

The standard methods are stand-alone and self-contained in the sense that they only require a model to perform a study. They do not call other methods. While methods such as `polynomial_chaos` and `efficient_global` internally utilize multiple iterator and surrogate model components, these components are generally
hidden from user control due to restrictions on modularity; thus, these methods are stand-alone.

The multi-component group of methods provides a higher level "meta-algorithm" that points to other methods and models that support sub-iteration. For example, in a sequential hybrid method, the hybrid method specification must identify a list of subordinate methods, and the "meta-algorithm" executes these methods in sequence and transfers information between them. Surrogate-based minimizers provide another example in that they point both to other methods (e.g. what optimization method is used to solve the approximate subproblem) as well as to models (e.g. what type of surrogate model is employed). Multi-component methods generally provide some level of "plug and play" modularity, through their flexible support of a variety of method and model selections.

Component-Based Iterator Commands

Component-based iterator specifications include hybrid, multi-start, pareto set, surrogate-based local, surrogate-based global, and branch and bound methods. Whereas a standard iterator specification only needs an optional model pointer string (specified with model_pointer), component-based iterator specifications can include method pointer, method name, and model pointer specifications in order to define the components employed in the "meta-iteration." In particular, these specifications identify one or more methods (by pointer or by name) to specify the subordinate iterators that will be used in the top-level algorithm. Identifying a sub-iterator by name instead of by pointer is a lightweight option that relaxes the need for a separate method specification for the sub-iterator; however, a model pointer may be required in this case to provide the specification connectivity normally supported by the method pointer. Refer to these individual method descriptions for specific requirements for these advanced methods.

Method Independent Controls

In addition to the method, there are 10 optional keywords, which are referred to as method independent controls. These controls are valid for enough methods that it was reasonable to pull them out of the method dependent blocks and consolidate the specifications, however, they are NOT universally respected by all methods.

Examples

Several examples follow. The first example shows a minimal specification for an optimization method.

```
method
  dot_sqp
```

This example uses all of the defaults for this method.

A more sophisticated example would be

```
method,
  id_method = 'NLP1'
  dot_sqp
  max_iterations = 50
  convergence_tolerance = 1e-4
  output verbose
  model_pointer = 'M1'
```

This example demonstrates the use of identifiers and pointers as well as some method independent and method dependent controls for the sequential quadratic programming (SQP) algorithm from the DOT library. The max_iterations, convergence_tolerance, and output settings are method independent controls, in that they are defined for a variety of methods (see dot for usage of these controls).

The next example shows a specification for a least squares method.

```
method
  optpp_g_newton
  max_iterations = 10
  convergence_tolerance = 1.e-8
  search_method trust_region
  gradient_tolerance = 1.e-6
```
6.2. METHOD

Some of the same method independent controls are present along with several method dependent controls (search_method and gradient_tolerance) which are only meaningful for OPT++ methods (see package_optpp).

The next example shows a specification for a nondeterministic method with several method dependent controls (refer to sampling):

```
method
    sampling
        samples = 100
        seed = 12345
        sample_type lhs
        response_levels = 1000. 500.
```

The last example shows a specification for a parameter study method where, again, each of the controls are method dependent (refer to vector_parameter_study):

```
method
    vector_parameter_study
        step_vector = 1. 1. 1.
        num_steps = 10
```

### 6.2.1 id_method

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **id_method**

Name the method block; helpful when there are multiple

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:
- **block_identifier**
- **method_independent_controls**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The method identifier string is supplied with id_method and is used to provide a unique identifier string for use with environment or meta-iterator specifications (refer to environment). It is appropriate to omit a method identifier string if only one method is included in the input file, since the single method to use is unambiguous in this case.

### 6.2.2 output

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **output**

Control how much method information is written to the screen and output file
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- dakota_output
- method_independent_controls

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>verbose</td>
<td>Level 4 of 5 - more than normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>normal</td>
<td>Level 3 of 5 - default</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>quiet</td>
<td>Level 2 of 5 - less than normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>silent</td>
<td>Level 1 of 5 - minimum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Choose from a total of five output levels during the course of a Dakota study. If there is no user specification for output verbosity, then the default setting is normal.

Specific mappings are as follows:

- **silent** (i.e., really quiet): silent iterators, silent model, silent interface, quiet approximation, quiet file operations
- **quiet**: quiet iterators, quiet model, quiet interface, quiet approximation, quiet file operations
- **normal**: normal iterators, normal model, normal interface, quiet approximation, quiet file operations
- **verbose**: verbose iterators, normal model, verbose interface, verbose approximation, verbose file operations
- **debug** (i.e., really verbose): debug iterators, normal model, debug interface, verbose approximation, verbose file operations

Note that iterators and interfaces utilize the full granularity in verbosity, whereas models, approximations, and file operations do not. With respect to iterator verbosity, different iterators implement this control in slightly different ways (as described below in the method independent controls descriptions for each iterator), however the meaning is consistent.

For models, interfaces, approximations, and file operations, **quiet** suppresses parameter and response set reporting and **silent** further suppresses function evaluation headers and scheduling output. Similarly, **verbose** adds file management, approximation evaluation, and global approximation coefficient details, and **debug** further adds diagnostics from nonblocking schedulers.
6.2. METHOD

debug
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • output
  • debug

  Level 5 of 5 - maximum

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
This is described on output

verbose
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • output
  • verbose

  Level 4 of 5 - more than normal

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
This is described on output

normal
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • output
  • normal

  Level 3 of 5 - default
**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

This is described on output

**quiet**

- Keywords Area
- method
- output
- quiet

Level 2 of 5 - less than normal

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

This is described on output

**silent**

- Keywords Area
- method
- output
- silent

Level 1 of 5 - minimum

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

This is described on output
6.2. METHOD

6.2.3 max_iterations

- Keywords Area
- method
- max_iterations

Stopping criteria based on number of iterations

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- method_independent_controls

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The maximum number of iterations.

The default for max_iterations is 100.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- max_function_evaluations

6.2.4 max_function_evaluations

- Keywords Area
- method
- max_function_evaluations

Stopping criteria based on number of function evaluations

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- method_independent_controls

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The maximum number of function evaluations.

The default for max_function_evaluations is 1000.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- max_iterations

6.2.5 speculative

- Keywords Area
- method
- speculative

Compute speculative gradients

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- method_independent_controls

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

When performing gradient-based optimization in parallel, speculative gradients can be selected to address the load imbalance that can occur between gradient evaluation and line search phases. In a typical gradient-based optimization, the line search phase consists primarily of evaluating the objective function and any constraints at a trial point, and then testing the trial point for a sufficient decrease in the objective function value and/or constraint violation. If a sufficient decrease is not observed, then one or more additional trial points may be attempted sequentially. However, if the trial point is accepted then the line search phase is complete and the gradient evaluation phase begins. By speculating that the gradient information associated with a given line search trial point will be used later, additional coarse grained parallelism can be introduced by computing the gradient information (either by finite difference or analytically) in parallel, at the same time as the line search phase trial-point function values. This balances the total amount of computation to be performed at each design point and allows for efficient utilization of multiple processors. While the total amount of work performed will generally increase (since some speculative gradients will not be used when a trial point is rejected in the line search phase), the run time will usually decrease (since gradient evaluations needed at the start of each new optimization cycle were already performed in parallel during the line search phase). Refer to [[13] "Byrd et al., 1998"] for additional details. The speculative specification is implemented for the gradient-based optimizers in the DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ libraries, and it can be used with dakota numerical or analytic gradient selections in the responses specification (refer to responses gradient section for information on these specifications). It should not be selected with vendor numerical gradients since vendor internal finite difference algorithms have not been modified for
6.2. METHOD

In full-Newton approaches, the Hessian is also computed speculatively. NPSOL and NLSSOL do not support speculative gradients, as their gradient-based line search in user-supplied gradient mode (dakota numerical or analytic gradients) is a superior approach for load-balanced parallel execution.

The speculative specification enables speculative computation of gradient and/or Hessian information, where applicable, for parallel optimization studies. By speculating that the derivative information at the current point will be used later, the complete data set (all available gradient/Hessian information) can be computed on every function evaluation. While some of these computations will be wasted, the positive effects are a consistent parallel load balance and usually shorter wall clock time. The speculative specification is applicable only when parallelism in the gradient calculations can be exploited by Dakota (it will be ignored for vendor numerical gradients).

6.2.6 convergence_tolerance

- Keywords Area
  - method
  - convergence_tolerance

Stopping criterion based on convergence of the objective function

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- method_independent_controls

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The convergence_tolerance specification provides a real value for controlling the termination of iteration. It is a relative convergence tolerance for the objective function; i.e., if the change in the objective function between successive iterations divided by the previous objective function is less than the amount specified by convergence_tolerance, then this convergence criterion is satisfied on the current iteration.

Therefore, permissible values are between 0 and 1, non-inclusive.

Behavior Varies by Package/Library

This control is used with optimization and least squares iterators (DOT, CONMIN, NPSOL, NLSSOL, OPT++, and SCOLIB) and is not used within the uncertainty quantification, design of experiments, or parameter study iterator branches.

Since no progress may be made on one iteration followed by significant progress on a subsequent iteration, some libraries require that the convergence tolerance be satisfied on two or more consecutive iterations prior to termination of iteration.

Notes on each library:

- DOT: must be satisfied for two consecutive iterations
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

• NPSOL: defines an internal optimality tolerance which is used in evaluating if an iterate satisfies the first-order Kuhn-Tucker conditions for a minimum. The magnitude of convergence_tolerance approximately specifies the number of significant digits of accuracy desired in the final objective function (e.g., convergence_tolerance = 1.e-6 will result in approximately six digits of accuracy in the final objective function).

• NL2SOL: See nl2sol

6.2.7 constraint_tolerance

• Keywords Area

• method

• constraint_tolerance

The maximum allowable value of constraint violation still considered to be feasible

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• method_independent_controls

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The constraint_tolerance specification determines the maximum allowable value of infeasibility that any constraint in an optimization problem may possess and still be considered to be satisfied.

If a constraint function is greater than this value then it is considered to be violated by the optimization algorithm. This specification gives some control over how tightly the constraints will be satisfied at convergence of the algorithm. However, if the value is set too small the algorithm may terminate with one or more constraints being violated.

This specification is currently meaningful for the NPSOL, NLSSOL, DOT and CONMIN constrained optimizers.

Defaults

Defaults can vary depending on the method.

• DOT constrained optimizers: 0.003

• NPSOL: dependent upon the machine precision, typically on the order of 1.e-8 for double precision computations
6.2. METHOD

6.2.8 scaling

- Keywords Area
  - method
  - scaling

Turn on scaling for variables, responses, and constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
  - method independent controls

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Some of the optimization and calibration methods support scaling of continuous design variables, objective functions, calibration terms, and constraints. This is activated by by providing the scaling keyword. Discrete variable scaling is not supported.

When scaling is enabled, variables, functions, gradients, Hessians, etc., are transformed such that the method iterates in scaled variable space, whereas evaluations of the computational model as specified in the interface are performed on the original problem scale. Therefore using scaling does not require rewriting the interface to the simulation code.

Scaling also requires the specification of additional keywords which are found in the method, variables, and responses blocks. When the scaling keyword is omitted, all _scale_types and *scales specifications are ignored in the method, variables, and responses sections.

This page describes the usage of all scaling related keywords. The additional keywords come in pairs, one pair for each set of quantities to be scaled. These quantities can be constraint equations, variables, or responses.

- a *scales keyword, which gives characteristic values
- a *scale_type keyword, which determines how to use the characteristic values

The pair of keywords both take argument(s), and the length of the arguments can either be zero, one, or equal to the number of quantities to be scaled. If one argument is given, it will apply to all quantities in the set. See the examples below.

Scale Types

There are four scale types:

1. none (default) - no scaling, value of *scales keyword is ignored
2. value - multiplicative scaling
3. auto - automatic scaling

First the quantity is scaled by the characteristic value, then automatic scaling will be attempted according to the following scheme:
two-sided bounds scaled into the interval [0,1];

- one-sided bound or targets are scaled by the characteristic value, moving the bound or target to 1 and changing the sense of inequalities where necessary;

- no bounds or targets: no automatic scaling possible, therefore no scaling for this component

Automatic scaling is not available for objective functions nor calibration terms since they lack bound constraints. Further, when automatically scaled, linear constraints are scaled by characteristic values only, not affinely scaled into [0,1].

4. log - logarithmic scaling

First, any characteristic values from the optional *scales specification are applied. Then logarithm base 10 scaling is applied.

Logarithmic scaling is not available for linear constraints.

When continuous design variables are log scaled, linear constraints are not allowed.

Scales

The *scales keywords are used to specify the characteristic values. These must be non-zero real numbers. The numbers are used according to the corresponding *scale_type, as described above. Depending on the scale type, the characteristic values may be required or optional.

- none, auto, log - optional

- value - required.

A warning is issued if scaling would result in division by a value smaller in magnitude than 1.0e10*DBL_MIN. User-provided values violating this lower bound are accepted unaltered, whereas for automatically calculated scaling, the lower bound is enforced.

Examples

The two examples below are equivalent:

```
responses
  objective_functions 3
  sense "maximize"
  primary_scale_types = "value"
  primary_scales = 1 1 100
```

```
responses
  objective_functions 3
  sense "maximize"
  primary_scale_types = "value" "value" "value"
  primary_scales = 1 1 100
```

6.2.9 final_solutions

- Keywords Area

- method

- final_solutions

Number of designs returned as the best solutions
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- method_independent_controls

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The final_solutions controls the number of final solutions returned by the iterator as the best solutions. For most optimizers, this is one, but some optimizers can produce multiple solutions (e.g. genetic algorithms). When using a hybrid strategy, the number of final solutions dictates how many solutions are passed from one method to another.

Examples
In the case of sampling methods, if one specifies 100 samples (for example) but also specifies final_solutions = 5, the five best solutions (in order of lowest response function value) are returned.

6.2.10 hybrid

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid

Strategy in which a set of methods synergistically seek an optimal design

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword sequential</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword embedded</th>
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</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>collaborative</th>
<th>Multiple methods run concurrently and share information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>iterator_servers</td>
<td>Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>iterator_scheduling</td>
<td>Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>processors_per_iterator</td>
<td>Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

In a hybrid minimization method (hybrid), a set of methods synergistically seek an optimal design. The relationships among the methods are categorized as:

- collaborative
- embedded
- sequential

The goal in each case is to exploit the strengths of different optimization and nonlinear least squares algorithms at different stages of the minimization process. Global + local hybrids (e.g., genetic algorithms combined with nonlinear programming) are a common example in which the desire for identification of a global optimum is balanced with the need for efficient navigation to a local optimum.

**sequential**

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- sequential

Methods are run one at a time, in sequence

**Specification**

Alias: uncoupled

Argument(s): none
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
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<td>method_name_list</td>
<td>List of Dakota methods to sequentially or collaboratively run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>method_pointer_list</td>
<td>Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

In the **sequential** approach, methods are run one at a time, in sequence. The best solutions from one method are used to initialize the next method.

The sequence of methods (i.e., iterators) to run are specified using either a `method_pointer_list` or a `method_name_list` (with optional `model_pointer_list`). Any number of iterators may be specified.

Method switching is managed through the separate convergence controls of each method. The number of solutions transferred between methods is specified by the particular method through its `final_solutions` method control.

For example, if one sets up a two-level study with a first method that generates multiple solutions such as a genetic algorithm, followed by a second method that is initialized only at a single point such as a gradient-based algorithm, it is possible to take the multiple solutions generated by the first method and create several instances of the second method, each one with a different initial starting point.

The logic governing the transfer of multiple solutions between methods is as follows:

- if one solution is returned from method A, then one solution is transferred to method B.

- If multiple solutions are returned from method A, and method B can accept multiple solutions as input (for example, as a genetic algorithm population), then one instance of method B is initialized with multiple solutions.

- If multiple solutions are returned from method A but method B only can accept one initial starting point, then method B is run several times, each one with a separate starting point from the results of method A.

**Method Name List**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **sequential**
- **method_name_list**

List of Dakota methods to sequentially or collaboratively run

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
### Keywords Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td></td>
<td>model_pointer_list</td>
<td>Associate models with method names</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description

`method_name_list` specifies a list of Dakota methods (e.g. `soga, conmin_frcg`) that will be run by a hybrid sequential or hybrid collaborative method. The methods are executed with default options. The optional `model_pointer_list` may be used to associate a model with each method.

- `model_pointer_list`
  - Keywords Area
  - `method`
  - `hybrid`
  - `sequential`
  - `method_name_list`
  - `model_pointer_list`

Associate models with method names

#### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `block_pointer`

#### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

#### Description

Using the optional keyword `model_pointer_list`, models can be assigned to methods specified in the `method_name_list`. Models are referred to by name (i.e. by their `id_model` labels). The length of the `model_pointer_list` must be either 1 or match the length of the `method_name_list`. If the former, the same model will be used for all methods, and if the latter, methods and models will be paired in the order that they appear in the two lists.
method_pointer_list

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- sequential
- method_pointer_list

Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

method_pointer_list specifies by name the methods that are to be executed by a hybrid sequential or hybrid collaborative method. Its argument is a list of strings that refer to method blocks by name (i.e. to their id_method labels).

embedded

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- embedded

A subordinate local method provides periodic refinements to a top-level global method

Specification

Alias: coupled

Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          | Description    | Description    |
| Required/- | Description    | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          | Description    | Description    |
| Required/- | Description    | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          | Description    | Description    |
### Required (Choose One)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group 1</th>
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<th>global_method-name</th>
<th>Specify the global method by Dakota name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>global_method-pointer</td>
<td>local_method-name</td>
<td>Pointer to global method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>local_method-pointer</td>
<td>local_search-probability</td>
<td>Probability of executing local searches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Optional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

In the **embedded** approach, a tightly-coupled hybrid is employed in which a subordinate local method provides periodic refinements to a top-level global method.

Global and local method strings supplied with the `global_method_pointer` and `local_method_pointer` specifications identify the two methods to be used. Alternatively, Dakota method names (e.g. ‘soga’) can be supplied using the `global_method_name` and `local_method_name` keywords, which each have optional model pointer specifications. The `local_search_probability` setting is an optional specification for supplying the probability (between 0.0 and 1.0) of employing local search to improve estimates within the global search.

**global_method_name**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **embedded**
- **global_method_name**

Specify the global method by Dakota name

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>global_model-pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to model used by global method</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Description

global_method.name is used to specify the global method in a hybrid embedded optimization by Dakota name (e.g. 'soga'). The name of the method is provided as a string. The method is executed with default options.

   global_model_pointer

   • Keywords Area
   • method
   • hybrid
   • embedded
   • global_method_name
   • global_model_pointer

   Pointer to model used by global method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

   • block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
   Argument(s): STRING

Description

global_model_pointer can be used to specify a model for use with the Dakota method named by the global_method.name specification. The argument is a string that refers to the id_model label of the desired model.

   global_method_pointer

   • Keywords Area
   • method
   • hybrid
   • embedded
   • global_method_pointer

   Pointer to global method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The global_method_pointer identifies the method block to use as the global method in a hybrid embedded optimization using its id_method label.

local_method_name
- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- embedded
- local_method_name

Specify the local method by Dakota name

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>local_model_pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to model used by local method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
local_method_name is used to specify the local method in a hybrid embedded optimization by Dakota name (e.g. 'conmin_mfd'). The name of the method is provided as a string. The method is executed with default options.

local_model_pointer
- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
6.2. **METHOD**

- **embedded**
- **local_method_name**
- **local_model_pointer**

Pointer to model used by local method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `local_model_pointer` can be used to specify a model for use with the Dakota method named by the `local_method_name` specification. The argument is a string that refers to the `id_model` label of the desired model.

`local_method_pointer`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **embedded**
- **local_method_pointer**

Pointer to local method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `local_method_pointer` identifies the method block to use as the local method in a hybrid embedded optimization using its `id_method`
local_search_probability

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- embedded
- local_search_probability

Probability of executing local searches

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `local_search_probability` setting is an optional specification for supplying the probability (between 0.0 and 1.0) of employing local search to improve estimates within the global search. Its default value is 0.1.

collaborative

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- collaborative

Multiple methods run concurrently and share information

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

### Description

In the collaborative approach, multiple methods work together and share solutions while executing concurrently. A list of method strings specifies the pool of iterators to be used. Any number of iterators may be specified. The method collaboration logic follows that of either the Agent-Based Optimization or HOPSPACK codes and is currently under development and not available at this time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>method_name_list</th>
<th>Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**method_name_list**

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- collaborative
- model_pointer_list

List of Dakota methods to sequentially or collaboratively run

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer_list</td>
<td>Associate models with method names</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

`method_name_list` specifies a list of Dakota methods (e.g. soga, conmin_frcg) that will be run by a hybrid sequential or hybrid collaborative method. The methods are executed with default options. The optional `model_pointer_list` may be used to associate a model with each method.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>model_pointer_list</th>
<th>Associate models with method names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- collaborative
- method_name_list
- model_pointer_list
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
Using the optional keyword model_pointer_list, models can be assigned to methods specified in the method_name_list. Models are referred to by name (i.e. by their id_model labels). The length of the model_pointer_list must be either 1 or match the length of the method_name_list. If the former, the same model will be used for all methods, and if the latter, methods and models will be paired in the order that they appear in the two lists.

method_pointer_list

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- collaborative
- method_pointer_list

Pointers to methods to execute sequentially or collaboratively

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
method_pointer_list specifies by name the methods that are to be executed by a hybrid sequential or hybrid collaborative method. Its argument is a list of strings that refer to method blocks by name (i.e. to their id_method labels).
6.2. METHOD

iterator_servers

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **iterator_servers**

Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel.

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **concurrency_and_parallelism**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional `iterator_servers` specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, `hybrid`, `multi_start`, and `pareto_set` component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.

**iterator_scheduling**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **iterator_scheduling**

Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel.

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **concurrency_and_parallelism**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
Description

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional iterator_scheduling specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.

master

- Keywords Area
- method
- hybrid
- iterator_scheduling
- master

Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a dedicated master partition. In a dedicated master partition, one processor (the "master") dynamically schedules work on the iterator servers. This reduces the number of processors available to create servers by 1.
6.2. **METHOD**

**peer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **iterator.scheduling**
- **peer**

Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **concurrency_and_parallelism**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a peer partition. In a peer partition, all processors are available to be assigned to iterator servers. Note that unlike the case of `evaluation.scheduling`, it is not possible to specify static or dynamic.

**processors_per_iterator**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **hybrid**
- **processors_per_iterator**

Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **concurrency_and_parallelism**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
**Description**

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional `processors_per_iterator` specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of processors in each iterator server. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired server size at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParalleLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [4] “Adams et al., 2010” for additional information.

### 6.2.11 multi_start

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start

Multi-Start Optimization Method

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
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<td>Group 1</td>
<td>method_name</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>method_pointer</td>
<td>specify sub-method by name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>random_starts</td>
<td></td>
<td>pointer to sub-method to run from each starting point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>starting_points</td>
<td></td>
<td>number of random starting points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>iterator_servers</td>
<td></td>
<td>list of user-specified starting points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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6.2. METHOD

| Optional | iterator_scheduling | Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel |
| Optional | processors_per_iterator | Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel |

**Description**

In the multi-start iteration method (multi_start), a series of iterator runs are performed for different values of parameters in the model. A common use is for multi-start optimization (i.e., different local optimization runs from different starting points for the design variables), but the concept and the code are more general. Multi-start iteration is implemented within the MetaIterator branch of the Iterator hierarchy within the ConcurrentMetaIterator class. Additional information on the multi-start algorithm is available in the Users Manual [4] “Adams et al., 2010”.

The multi_start meta-iterator must specify a sub-iterator using either a method_pointer or a method_name plus optional model_pointer. This iterator is responsible for completing a series of iterative analyses from a set of different starting points. These starting points can be specified as follows: (1) using random_starts, for which the specified number of starting points are selected randomly within the variable bounds, (2) using starting_points, in which the starting values are provided in a list, or (3) using both random_starts and starting_points, for which the combined set of points will be used. In aggregate, at least one starting point must be specified. The most common example of a multi-start algorithm is multi-start optimization, in which a series of optimizations are performed from different starting values for the design variables. This can be an effective approach for problems with multiple minima.

**method_name**

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- method_name

Specify sub-method by name

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s):* STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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### Description

The `method_name` keyword is used to specify a sub-method by Dakota method name (e.g. 'npsol_sqp') rather than block pointer. The method will be executed using its default settings. The optional `model_pointer` specification can be used to associate a model block with the method.

#### model_pointer

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **multi_start**
- **method_name**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

#### Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.  
See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.
6.2. **METHOD**

**Examples**

**environment**

```plaintext
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'
```

**method**

```plaintext
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative
```

**model**

```plaintext
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic
```

**method**

```plaintext
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2
```

**model**

```plaintext
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'
```

**variables**

```plaintext
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'
```

**interface**

```plaintext
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'
```

**responses**

```plaintext
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians
```

**method_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **multi_start**
- **method_pointer**

Pointer to sub-method to run from each starting point
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The method_pointer keyword is used to specify a pointer to the sub-method block that will be run from each starting point.

random_starts

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- random_starts

Number of random starting points

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
The multi_start meta-iterator must specify a sub-iterator using either a method_pointer or a method_name plus optional model_pointer. This iterator is responsible for completing a series of iterative analyses from a set of different starting points. These starting points can be specified as follows: (1) using random_starts, for which the specified number of starting points are selected randomly within the variable bounds, (2) using starting_points, in which the starting values are provided in a list, or (3) using both random_starts and starting_points, for which the combined set of points will be used.
6.2. METHOD

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- random_starts
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
- Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 15347
```

starting_points

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- starting_points

List of user-specified starting points
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The multi_start meta-iterator must specify a sub-iterator using either a method_pointer or a method_name plus optional model_pointer. This iterator is responsible for completing a series of iterative analyses from a set of different starting points. These starting points can be specified as follows: (1) using random_starts, for which the specified number of starting points are selected randomly within the variable bounds, (2) using starting_points, in which the starting values are provided in a list, or (3) using both random_starts and starting_points, for which the combined set of points will be used.

iterator_servers

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- iterator_servers

Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel.

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional iterator_servers specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.
6.2. METHOD

iterator_scheduling

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- iterator_scheduling

Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>master</td>
<td></td>
<td>master</td>
<td>Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peer</td>
<td></td>
<td>peer</td>
<td>Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional iterator_scheduling specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.

master

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- iterator_scheduling
• **master**

Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a dedicated master partition. In a dedicated master partition, one processor (the “master”) dynamically schedules work on the iterator servers. This reduces the number of processors available to create servers by 1.

• **peer**

Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a peer partition. In a peer partition, all processors are available to be assigned to iterator servers. Note that unlike the case of evaluation_scheduling, it is not possible to specify static or dynamic.
6.2. METHOD

processors_per_iterator

- Keywords Area
- method
- multi_start
- processors_per_iterator

Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional processors_per_iterator specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of processors in each iterator server. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired server size at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010" for additional information.

6.2.12 pareto_set

- Keywords Area
- method
- pareto_set

Pareto set optimization

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
### Description

In the pareto set minimization method (pareto.set), a series of optimization or least squares calibration runs are performed for different weightings applied to multiple objective functions. This set of optimal solutions defines a "Pareto set," which is useful for investigating design trade-offs between competing objectives. The code is similar enough to the multi_start technique that both algorithms are implemented in the same Concurrent-MetaIterator class.

The pareto.set specification must identify an optimization or least squares calibration method using either a method_pointer or a method_name plus optional model_pointer. This minimizer is responsible for computing a set of optimal solutions from a set of response weightings (multi-objective weights or least squares term weights). These weightings can be specified as follows: (1) using random_weight_sets, in which case weightings are selected randomly within [0,1] bounds, (2) using weight_sets, in which the weighting sets are specified in a list, or (3) using both random_weight_sets and weight_sets, for which the combined set of weights will be used. In aggregate, at least one set of weights must be specified. The set of optimal solutions is called the "pareto set," which can provide valuable design trade-off information when there are competing objectives.

### Keywords Area

- **Required (Choose One)**
  - **Group 1**
    - method_name
    - Specify sub-method by name
  - **method_pointer**
    - Pointer to optimization or least-squares sub-method

- **Optional**
  - random_weight_sets
  - Number of random weighting sets
  - weight_sets
  - List of user-specified weighting sets
  - iterator_servers
  - Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel
  - iterator_scheduling
  - Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel
  - processors_per_iterator
  - Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

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**method_name**

- Keywords Area
- method
6.2. METHOD

- pareto_set
- method_name

Specify sub-method by name

**Specification**

**Alias**: opt\_method\_name

**Argument(s)**: STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The **method\_name** keyword is used to specify a sub-method by Dakota method name (e.g. 'npsol\_sqp') rather than block pointer. The method will be executed using its default settings. The optional **model\_pointer** specification can be used to associate a model block with the method.

**model\_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- pareto\_set
- method\_name
- model\_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block\_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias**: opt\_model\_pointer

**Argument(s)**: STRING
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
6.2. METHOD

response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

method_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- pareto_set
- method_pointer

Pointer to optimization or least-squares sub-method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: opt_method_pointer
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The method_pointer keyword is used to specify a pointer to an optimization or least-squares sub-method that is responsible for computing a set of optimal solutions for a set of response weightings.

random_weight_sets

- Keywords Area
- method
- pareto_set
- random_weight_sets

Number of random weighting sets

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
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<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>seed</th>
<th>Seed of the random number generator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description

The `pareto_set` specification must identify an optimization or least squares calibration method using either a `method_pointer` or a `method_name` plus optional `model_pointer`. This minimizer is responsible for computing a set of optimal solutions from a set of response weightings (multi-objective weights or least squares term weights). These weightings can be specified as follows: (1) using `random_weight_sets`, in which case weightings are selected randomly within [0,1] bounds, (2) using `weight_sets`, in which the weighting sets are specified in a list, or (3) using both `random_weight_sets` and `weight_sets`, for which the combined set of weights will be used. In aggregate, at least one set of weights must be specified. The set of optimal solutions is called the "pareto set," which can provide valuable design trade-off information when there are competing objectives.

`seed`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pareto_set**
- **random_weight_sets**
- **seed**

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

The random `seed` control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If `seed` is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without `seed` specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
method
    sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

weight_sets
    - Keywords Area
    - method
    - pareto_set
    - weight_sets

List of user-specified weighting sets

Specification

Alias: multi_objective_weight_sets
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The `pareto_set` specification must identify an optimization or least squares calibration method using either
a `method_pointer` or a `method_name` plus optional `model_pointer`. This minimizer is responsible for
computing a set of optimal solutions from a set of response weightings (multi-objective weights or least squares
term weights). These weightings can be specified as follows: (1) using `random_weight_sets`, in which case
weightings are selected randomly within [0,1] bounds, (2) using `weight_sets`, in which the weighting sets are
specified in a list, or (3) using both `random_weight_sets` and `weight_sets`, for which the combined set
of weights will be used. In aggregate, at least one set of weights must be specified. The set of optimal solutions
is called the “pareto set,” which can provide valuable design trade-off information when there are competing
objectives.

iterator_servers
    - Keywords Area
    - method
    - pareto_set
    - iterator_servers

Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
    - concurrency_and_parallelism
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional iterator_servers specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] “Adams et al., 2010”] for additional information.

iterator_scheduling

- Keywords Area
- method
- pareto_set
- iterator_scheduling

Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>master</td>
<td>Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. **METHOD**

| peer | Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling |

**Description**

An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional `iterator_scheduling` specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, `hybrid`, `multi_start`, and `pareto_set` component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010" for additional information.

**master**

- Keywords Area
- method
- `pareto_set`
- `iterator_scheduling`
- master

Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `concurrency_and_parallelism`

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a dedicated master partition. In a dedicated master partition, one processor (the "master") dynamically schedules work on the iterator servers. This reduces the number of processors available to create servers by 1.

**peer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- `pareto_set`
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- iterator_scheduling
- peer

Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a peer partition. In a peer partition, all processors are available to be assigned to iterator servers. Note that unlike the case of evaluation_scheduling, it is not possible to specify static or dynamic processors per iterator.

processors_per_iterator
- Keywords Area
- method
- pareto_set
- processors_per_iterator

Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional processors_per_iterator specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of processors in each iterator server. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired server size at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.
6.2. METHOD

### 6.2.13 surrogate_based_local

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **surrogate_based_local**

Local Surrogate Based Optimization

#### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **surrogate_based_optimization_methods**

#### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>method_pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>method_name</td>
<td>Specify sub-method by name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>soft_convergence_limit</td>
<td>Limit number of iterations w/ little improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>truth_surrogate_bypass</td>
<td>Bypass lower level surrogates when performing truth verifications on a top level surrogate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>trust_region</td>
<td>Use trust region search method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>approx_subproblem</td>
<td>Identify functions to be included in surrogate merit function</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DESCRIPTION

In surrogate-based optimization (SBO) and surrogate-based nonlinear least squares (SBNLS), minimization occurs using a set of one or more approximations, defined from a surrogate model, that are built and periodically updated using data from a "truth" model. The surrogate model can be a global data fit (e.g., regression or interpolation of data generated from a design of computer experiments), a multipoint approximation, a local Taylor Series expansion, or a model hierarchy approximation (e.g., a low-fidelity simulation model), whereas the truth model involves a high-fidelity simulation model. The goals of surrogate-based methods are to reduce the total number of truth model simulations and, in the case of global data fit surrogates, to smooth noisy data with an easily navigated analytic function.

In the surrogate-based local method, a trust region approach is used to manage the minimization process to maintain acceptable accuracy between the surrogate model and the truth model (by limiting the range over which the surrogate model is trusted). The process involves a sequence of minimizations performed on the surrogate model and bounded by the trust region. At the end of each approximate minimization, the candidate optimum point is validated using the truth model. If sufficient decrease has been obtained in the truth model, the trust region is re-centered around the candidate optimum point and the trust region will either shrink, expand, or remain the same size depending on the accuracy with which the surrogate model predicted the truth model decrease. If sufficient decrease has not been attained, the trust region center is not updated and the entire trust region shrinks by a user-specified factor. The cycle then repeats with the construction of a new surrogate model, a minimization, and another test for sufficient decrease in the truth model. This cycle continues until convergence is attained.

THEORY

For surrogate_based_local problems with nonlinear constraints, a number of algorithm formulations exist as described in [22] "Eldred and Dunlavy, 2006" and as summarized in the Advanced Examples section of the Models chapter of the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010".

SEE ALSO

These keywords may also be of interest:

- efficient_global
- surrogate_based_global

METHOD_POINTER

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- method_pointer

Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: approx_method_pointer
  Argument(s): STRING

Description
The method_pointer keyword is used to specify a pointer to an optimization or least-squares sub-method to apply to the surrogate model.

Any model_pointer identified in the sub-method specification is ignored. Instead, the parent method is responsible for selecting a surrogate model using its model_pointer.

method_name

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- method_name
  Specify sub-method by name

Specification
Alias: approx_method_name
  Argument(s): STRING

Description
The method_name keyword is used to specify a sub-method by Dakota method name (e.g. ‘npsol_sqp’) rather than block pointer. The method will be executed using its default settings. The optional model_pointer specification can be used to associate a model block with the method.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- model_pointer
  Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: approx_model_pointer
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.
See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'II'
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variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
id_interface = ‘I1’
system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

soft_convergence_limit

• Keywords Area
• method
• surrogate_based_local
• soft_convergence_limit

Limit number of iterations w/ little improvement

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

soft_convergence_limit (a soft convergence control for the surrogate_based_local iterations which limits the number of consecutive iterations with improvement less than the convergence tolerance)

truth_surrogate_bypass

• Keywords Area
• method
• surrogate_based_local
• truth_surrogate_bypass

Bypass lower level surrogates when performing truth verifications on a top level surrogate

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

`truth_surrogate_bypass` (a flag for bypassing all lower level surrogates when performing truth verifications on a top level surrogate).

`trust_region`
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- trust_region

Use trust region search method

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><code>initial_size</code></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trust region initial size (relative to bounds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><code>minimum_size</code></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trust region minimum size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><code>contract_threshold</code></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shrink trust region if trust region ratio is below this value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><code>expand_threshold</code></td>
<td></td>
<td>Expand trust region if trust region ratio is above this value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><code>contraction_factor</code></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amount by which step length is rescaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><code>expansion_factor</code></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trust region expansion factor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `trust_region` optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using `initial_size`) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using `minimum_size`), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using `contraction_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using `expansion_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using `contract_threshold`) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using `expand_threshold`). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command `contract_threshold` sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values
below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next surrogate-based_local iteration. The command `expand_threshold` determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next surrogate-based_local iteration.

**initial_size**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- trust_region
- initial_size

Trust region initial size (relative to bounds)

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The trust_region optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using `initial_size`) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using `minimum_size`), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using `contraction_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using `expansion_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using `contract_threshold`) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using `expand_threshold`). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command `contract_threshold` sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command `expand_threshold` determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

**minimum_size**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- trust_region
- minimum_size

Trust region minimum size

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL
**Description**

The `trust_region` optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using `initial_size`) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using `minimum_size`), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using `contraction_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using `expansion_factor`) used when the the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using `contract_threshold`) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using `expand_threshold`). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command `contract_threshold` sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command `expand_threshold` determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

**contract_threshold**

- `Keywords Area`
- `method`
- `surrogate_based_local`
- `trust_region`
- `contract_threshold`

Shrink trust region if trust region ratio is below this value

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `trust_region` optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using `initial_size`) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using `minimum_size`), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using `contraction_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using `expansion_factor`) used when the the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using `contract_threshold`) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using `expand_threshold`). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command `contract_threshold` sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command `expand_threshold` determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

**expand_threshold**

- `Keywords Area`
- `method`
6.2. METHOD

- surrogate_based_local
- trust_region
- expand_threshold

Expand trust region if trust region ratio is above this value

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The trust_region optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using initial_size) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using minimum_size), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using contraction_factor) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using expansion_factor) used when the the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using contract_threshold) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using expand_threshold). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command contract_threshold sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command expand_threshold determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

contraction_factor

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- trust_region
- contraction_factor

Amount by which step length is rescaled

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

For pattern search methods, contraction_factor specifies the amount by which step length is rescaled after unsuccessful iterates, must be strictly between 0 and 1.

For methods that can expand the step length, the expansion is 1/contraction_factor
expansion_factor

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- trust_region
- expansion_factor

Trust region expansion factor

**Specification**

Alias: none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `trust_region` optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using `initial_size`) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using `minimum_size`), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using `contraction_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using `expansion_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using `contract_threshold`) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using `expand_threshold`). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command `contract_threshold` sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command `expand_threshold` determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

approx_subproblem

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem

Identify functions to be included in surrogate merit function

**Specification**

Alias: none  
**Argument(s):** none
### Description

First, the "primary" functions (that is, the objective functions or calibration terms) in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original primary functions (`original_primary`), a single objective function (`single_objective`) formed from the primary function surrogates, or either an augmented Lagrangian merit function (`augmented_lagrangian_objective`) or a Lagrangian merit function (`lagrangian_objective`) formed from the primary and secondary function surrogates. The former option may imply the use of a nonlinear least squares method, a multiobjective optimization method, or a single objective optimization method to solve the approximate subproblem, depending on the definition of the primary functions. The latter three options all imply the use of a single objective optimization method regardless of primary function definition. Second, the surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (`original_constraints`) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (`linearized_constraints`), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (`no_constraints`).

#### original_primary
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- original_primary
Construct approximations of all primary functions

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

For SBL problems with nonlinear constraints, a number of algorithm formulations exist as described in [[22] "Eldred and Dunlavy, 2006"] and as summarized in the Advanced Examples section of the Models chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]). First, the "primary" functions (that is, the objective functions or calibration terms) in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original primary functions (original_primary), a single objective function (single_objective) formed from the primary function surrogates, or either an augmented Lagrangian merit function (augmented_lagrangian_objective) or a Lagrangian merit function (lagrangian_objective) formed from the primary and secondary function surrogates. The former option may imply the use of a nonlinear least squares method, a multiobjective optimization method, or a single objective optimization method to solve the approximate subproblem, depending on the definition of the primary functions. The latter three options all imply the use of a single objective optimization method regardless of primary function definition.

**single_objective**

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- single_objective

Construct approximation a single objective functions only

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

For SBL problems with nonlinear constraints, a number of algorithm formulations exist as described in [[22] "Eldred and Dunlavy, 2006"] and as summarized in the Advanced Examples section of the Models chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]). First, the "primary" functions (that is, the objective functions or calibration terms) in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original primary functions (original_primary), a single objective function (single_objective) formed from the primary function surrogates, or either an augmented Lagrangian merit function (augmented_lagrangian_objective) or a Lagrangian merit function (lagrangian_objective) formed from the primary and secondary function surrogates. The former option may imply the use of a nonlinear least squares method, a multiobjective optimization method, or a single objective optimization method to solve the approximate subproblem, depending on the definition of the primary functions. The latter three options all imply the use of a single objective optimization method regardless of primary function definition.
6.2. METHOD

augmented_lagrangian_objective

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- augmented_lagrangian_objective

Augmented Lagrangian approximate subproblem formulation

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

For SBL problems with nonlinear constraints, a number of algorithm formulations exist as described in [22] "Eldred and Dunlavy, 2006" and as summarized in the Advanced Examples section of the Models chapter of the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010". First, the "primary" functions (that is, the objective functions or calibration terms) in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original primary functions (original_primary), a single objective function (single_objective) formed from the primary function surrogates, or either an augmented Lagrangian merit function (augmented_lagrangian_objective) or a Lagrangian merit function (lagrangian_objective) formed from the primary and secondary function surrogates. The former option may imply the use of a nonlinear least squares method, a multiobjective optimization method, or a single objective optimization method to solve the approximate subproblem, depending on the definition of the primary functions. The latter three options all imply the use of a single objective optimization method regardless of primary function definition.

lagrangian_objective

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- lagrangian_objective

Lagrangian approximate subproblem formulation

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

For SBL problems with nonlinear constraints, a number of algorithm formulations exist as described in [[22] “Eldred and Dunlavy, 2006”] and as summarized in the Advanced Examples section of the Models chapter of the Users Manual [[4] “Adams et al., 2010”]. First, the “primary” functions (that is, the objective functions or calibration terms) in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original primary functions (original, primary), a single objective function (single_objective) formed from the primary function surrogates, or either an augmented Lagrangian merit function (augmented_lagrangian_objective) or a Lagrangian merit function (lagrangian_objective) formed from the primary and secondary function surrogates. The former option may imply the use of a nonlinear least squares method, a multiobjective optimization method, or a single objective optimization method to solve the approximate subproblem, depending on the definition of the primary functions. The latter three options all imply the use of a single objective optimization method regardless of primary function definition.

original_constraints

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- original_constraints

Use the constraints directly

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints).

linearized_constraints

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- linearized_constraints

Use linearized approximations to the constraints
6.2. METHOD

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints).

no_constraints
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- approx_subproblem
- no_constraints
Don’t use constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints).

merit_function
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- merit_function
Select type of penalty or merit function

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
### Description

Following optimization of the approximate subproblem, the candidate iterate is evaluated using a merit function, which can be selected to be a simple penalty function with penalty ramped by surrogate-based local iteration number (penalty.merit), an adaptive penalty function where the penalty ramping may be accelerated in order to avoid rejecting good iterates which decrease the constraint violation (adaptive.penalty.merit), a Lagrangian merit function which employs first-order Lagrange multiplier updates (lagrangian.merit), or an augmented Lagrangian merit function which employs both a penalty parameter and zeroth-order Lagrange multiplier updates (augmented.lagrangian.merit). When an augmented Lagrangian is selected for either the subproblem objective or the merit function (or both), updating of penalties and multipliers follows the approach described in [[15] "Conn et al., 2000"].

**penalty.merit**
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- merit_function
- penalty.merit

Use penalty merit function

### Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

Second, the surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints). Following optimization of the approximate subproblem, the candidate iterate is evaluated using a merit function, which can be
selected to be a simple penalty function with penalty ramped by SBL iteration number (penalty_merit), an adaptive penalty function where the penalty ramping may be accelerated in order to avoid rejecting good iterates which decrease the constraint violation (adaptive_penalty_merit), a Lagrangian merit function which employs first-order Lagrange multiplier updates (lagrangian_merit), or an augmented Lagrangian merit function which employs both a penalty parameter and zeroth-order Lagrange multiplier updates (augmented_lagrangian_merit). When an augmented Lagrangian is selected for either the subproblem objective or the merit function (or both), updating of penalties and multipliers follows the approach described in [[15] "Conn et al., 2000"].

**adaptive_penalty_merit**
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- merit_function
- adaptive_penalty_merit
Use adaptive penalty merit function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Second, the surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints). Following optimization of the approximate subproblem, the candidate iterate is evaluated using a merit function, which can be selected to be a simple penalty function with penalty ramped by SBL iteration number (penalty_merit), an adaptive penalty function where the penalty ramping may be accelerated in order to avoid rejecting good iterates which decrease the constraint violation (adaptive_penalty_merit), a Lagrangian merit function which employs first-order Lagrange multiplier updates (lagrangian_merit), or an augmented Lagrangian merit function which employs both a penalty parameter and zeroth-order Lagrange multiplier updates (augmented_lagrangian_merit). When an augmented Lagrangian is selected for either the subproblem objective or the merit function (or both), updating of penalties and multipliers follows the approach described in [[15] "Conn et al., 2000"].

**lagrangian_merit**
- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- merit_function
- lagrangian_merit
Use first-order Lagrangian merit function
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Second, the surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints). Following optimization of the approximate subproblem, the candidate iterate is evaluated using a merit function, which can be selected to be a simple penalty function with penalty ramped by SBL iteration number (penalty_merit), an adaptive penalty function where the penalty ramping may be accelerated in order to avoid rejecting good iterates which decrease the constraint violation (adaptive_penalty_merit), a Lagrangian merit function which employs first-order Lagrange multiplier updates (lagrangian_merit), or an augmented Lagrangian merit function which employs both a penalty parameter and zeroth-order Lagrange multiplier updates (augmented_lagrangian_merit). When an augmented Lagrangian is selected for either the subproblem objective or the merit function (or both), updating of penalties and multipliers follows the approach described in [[15] "Conn et al., 2000"].

augmented_lagrangian_merit

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- merit_function
- augmented_lagrangian_merit

Use combined penalty and zeroth-order Lagrange merit function

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Second, the surrogate constraints in the approximate subproblem can be selected to be surrogates of the original constraints (original_constraints) or linearized approximations to the surrogate constraints (linearized_constraints), or constraints can be omitted from the subproblem (no_constraints). Following optimization of the approximate subproblem, the candidate iterate is evaluated using a merit function, which can be selected to be a simple penalty function with penalty ramped by SBL iteration number (penalty_merit), an adaptive penalty function where the penalty ramping may be accelerated in order to avoid rejecting good iterates which decrease the constraint violation (adaptive_penalty_merit), a Lagrangian merit function which employs first-order Lagrange multiplier updates (lagrangian_merit), or an augmented Lagrangian merit function which employs both a penalty parameter and zeroth-order Lagrange multiplier updates (augmented_lagrangian_merit). When an augmented Lagrangian is selected for either the subproblem objective or the merit function (or both), updating of penalties and multipliers follows the approach described in [[15] "Conn et al., 2000"].
6.2. METHOD

acceptance_logic

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- acceptance_logic

Set criteria for trusted surrogate

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>tr_ratio</td>
<td>Surrogate-Based Local iterate acceptance logic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>filter</td>
<td>Surrogate-Based Local iterate acceptance logic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Following calculation of the merit function for the new iterate, the iterate is accepted or rejected and the trust region size is adjusted for the next surrogate_based_local iteration. Iterate acceptance is governed either by a trust region ratio (tr_ratio) formed from the merit function values or by a filter method (filter); however, trust region resizing logic is currently based only on the trust region ratio. For infeasible iterates, constraint relaxation can be used for balancing constraint satisfaction and progress made toward an optimum.

tr_ratio

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_local
- acceptance_logic
- tr_ratio

Surrogate-Based Local iterate acceptance logic

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Following calculation of the merit function for the new iterate, the iterate is accepted or rejected and the trust region size is adjusted for the next SBL iteration. Iterate acceptance is governed either by a trust region ratio \((tr\_ratio)\) formed from the merit function values or by a filter method \((filter)\); however, trust region resizing logic is currently based only on the trust region ratio. For infeasible iterates, constraint relaxation can be used for balancing constraint satisfaction and progress made toward an optimum. The command \texttt{constraint\_relax} followed by a method name specifies the type of relaxation to be used. Currently, \texttt{homotopy \{?\} "Perez et al., 2004"} is the only available method for constraint relaxation, and this method is dependent on the presence of the NPSOL library within the Dakota executable.

filter

- Keywords Area

- method

- surrogate\_based\_local

- acceptance\_logic

- filter

Surrogate-Based Local iterate acceptance logic

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Following calculation of the merit function for the new iterate, the iterate is accepted or rejected and the trust region size is adjusted for the next SBL iteration. Iterate acceptance is governed either by a trust region ratio \((tr\_ratio)\) formed from the merit function values or by a filter method \((filter)\); however, trust region resizing logic is currently based only on the trust region ratio. For infeasible iterates, constraint relaxation can be used for balancing constraint satisfaction and progress made toward an optimum. The command \texttt{constraint\_relax} followed by a method name specifies the type of relaxation to be used. Currently, \texttt{homotopy \{?\} "Perez et al., 2004"} is the only available method for constraint relaxation, and this method is dependent on the presence of the NPSOL library within the Dakota executable.

constraint\_relax

- Keywords Area

- method

- surrogate\_based\_local

- constraint\_relax

Enable constraint relaxation
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
### Description

The command `constraint_relax` followed by a method name specifies the type of relaxation to be used. Currently, `homotopy` ([69] "Perez et al., 2004") is the only available method for constraint relaxation, and this method is dependent on the presence of the NPSOL library within the Dakota executable.

**homotopy**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **surrogate_based_local**
- **constraint_relax**
- **homotopy**

Surrogate-Based local constraint relaxation method for infeasible iterates

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

Currently, `homotopy` ([7] "Perez et al., 2004") is the only available method for constraint relaxation, and this method is dependent on the presence of the NPSOL library within the Dakota executable.

#### 6.2.14 surrogate_based_global

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **surrogate_based_global**

Global Surrogate Based Optimization

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **surrogate_based_optimization_methods**
6.2. METHOD

Specification

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Required(Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>method_pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>method_name</td>
<td>Specify sub-method by name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method (Recommended)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>replace_points</td>
<td>Replace points in the surrogate training set, instead of appending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The *surrogate_based_global* specification must identify:

- a sub-method, using either `method_pointer` or `method_name`
- `model_pointer` must be used to identify a surrogate model

*surrogate_based_global* works in an iterative scheme where optimization is performed on a global surrogate using the same bounds during each iteration.

- In one iteration, the optimal solutions of the surrogate model are found, and then a selected set of these optimal surrogate solutions are passed to the next iteration.
- At the next iteration, these surrogate points are evaluated with the “truth” model, and then these points are added back to the set of points upon which the next surrogate is constructed.

In this way, the optimization acts on a more accurate surrogate during each iteration, presumably driving to optimality quickly.

**Method Independent Controls**

- `max_iterations` is used as a stopping criterion (see note below)

**Notes**

We have some cautionary notes before using the surrogate-based global method:

- **This approach has no guarantee of convergence.**
- One might first try a single minimization method coupled with a surrogate model prior to using the surrogate-based global method. This is essentially equivalent to setting `max_iterations` to 1 and will allow one to get a sense of what surrogate types are the most accurate to use for the problem.
• Also note that one can specify that surrogates be built for all primary functions and constraints or for only a subset of these functions and constraints. This allows one to use a "truth" model directly for some of the response functions, perhaps due to them being much less expensive than other functions.

• We initially recommend a small number of maximum iterations, such as 3-5, to get a sense of how the optimization is evolving as the surrogate gets updated. If it appears to be changing significantly, then a larger number (used in combination with restart) may be needed.

Theory

In surrogate-based optimization (SBO) and surrogate-based nonlinear least squares (SBNLS), minimization occurs using a set of one or more approximations, defined from a surrogate model, that are built and periodically updated using data from a "truth" model. The surrogate model can be a global data fit (e.g., regression or interpolation of data generated from a design of computer experiments), a multipoint approximation, a local Taylor Series expansion, or a model hierarchy approximation (e.g., a low-fidelity simulation model), whereas the truth model involves a high-fidelity simulation model. The goals of surrogate-based methods are to reduce the total number of truth model simulations and, in the case of global data fit surrogates, to smooth noisy data with an easily navigated analytic function.

It was originally designed for MOGA (a multi-objective genetic algorithm). Since genetic algorithms often need thousands or tens of thousands of points to produce optimal or near-optimal solutions, the use of surrogates can be helpful for reducing the truth model evaluations. Instead of creating one set of surrogates for the individual objectives and running the optimization algorithm on the surrogate once, the idea is to select points along the (surrogate) Pareto frontier, which can be used to supplement the existing points.

In this way, one does not need to use many points initially to get a very accurate surrogate. The surrogate becomes more accurate as the iterations progress.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

• efficient_global

• surrogate_based_local

method_pointer

• Keywords Area

• method

• surrogate_based_global

• method_pointer

Pointer to sub-method to apply to surrogate

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• block_pointer
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: approx_method_pointer

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The method_pointer keyword is used to specify a pointer to an optimization or least-squares sub-method to apply to the surrogate model.

Any model_pointer identified in the sub-method specification is ignored. Instead, the parent method is responsible for selecting a surrogate model using its model_pointer.

method_name

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_global
- method_name

Specify sub-method by name

Specification

Alias: approx_method_name

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The method_name keyword is used to specify a sub-method by Dakota method name (e.g. ‘npsol_sqp’) rather than block pointer. The method will be executed using its default settings. The optional model_pointer specification can be used to associate a model block with the method.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- surrogate_based_global
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: approx_model_pointer
Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SURR'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SURR'
    surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
    sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'
6.2. METHOD

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

replace_points

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • surrogate_based_global
  • replace_points

(Recommended) Replace points in the surrogate training set, instead of appending

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

The user has the option of appending the optimal points from the surrogate model to the current set of truth points or using the optimal points from the surrogate model to replace the optimal set of points from the previous iteration. Although appending to the set is the default behavior, at this time we strongly recommend using the option replace_points because it appears to be more accurate and robust.

6.2.15 dot_frcg

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • dot_frcg

A conjugate gradient optimization method

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
Optional

**linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Optional

**linear_inequality_-lower_bounds**

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Optional

**linear_inequality_-upper_bounds**

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Optional

**linear_inequality_-scale_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Optional

**linear_inequality_-scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

Optional

**linear_equation_-constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

Optional

**linear_equation_-targets**

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Optional

**linear_equation_-scale_types**

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Optional

**linear_equation_-scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Optional

**model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Description**

This is a duplicated keyword. Please use `dot` instead.

We here provide a caution regarding `dot_frcg`. In DOT Version 4.20, we have noticed inconsistent behavior of this algorithm across different versions of Linux. Our best assessment is that it is due to different treatments of uninitialized variables. As we do not know the intention of the code authors and maintaining DOT source code is outside of the Dakota project scope, we have not made nor are we recommending any code changes to address this. However, all users who use `dot_frcg` in DOT Version 4.20 should be aware that results may not be reliable.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

---

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6.2. METHOD

- frcg

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_frcg
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form $Ax \leq 0.0$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_frcg
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot.frcg
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constraint matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see **objective_functions**), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot_frcg**
- **linear_inequality_scale_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

**linear_inequality_scale_types** provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- **'none'** - no scaling
- **'value'** - characteristic value if this is chosen, then **linear_inequality_scales** must be specified
- **'auto'** - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i \left( \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O \right) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear_inequality_scales**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_frcg
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `none` - ignored
  - `value` - required
  - `auto` - optional
If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint. Scaling for linear constraints is applied \textit{after} any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$
\tilde{x}^i = \frac{x^i - x^i_O}{x^i_M}
$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
$$

$$
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$. 

\textbf{linear\_equality\_constraint\_matrix}

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_frcg
- linear\_equality\_constraint\_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

\textbf{Topics}

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear\_constraints

\textbf{Specification}

\textbf{Alias}: none  
\textbf{Argument(s):} REALLIST

\textbf{Description}

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$
Ax = a_t
$$
linear_equation_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_frcg
- linear_equation_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$

linear_equation_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_frcg
- linear_equation_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

`linear.equality_scale_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear.equality.scales` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied *after* any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$
\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_O}{x_M}
$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \hat{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \hat{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear.equality.scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot_frcg**
- **linear.equality.scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear.constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
Description

Each entry in `linear_equality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the `scaling` page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**model_pointer**

- `Keywords Area`
- `method`
- `dot_frcg`
- `model_pointer`

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `block_pointer`

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING
6.2. METHOD

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SRR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                    0.1 0.2 0.6
                    0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.16 dot_mmfd

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd

Method of feasible directions

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
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<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
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<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_equality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_equality_-targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

This is a duplicated keyword. Please use `dot` instead.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `mmfd`

`linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `dot_mmfd`
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** `REALLIST`

**Description**

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$
Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

\section*{linear_inequality_lower_bounds}

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

\section*{Topics}

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`

\section*{Specification}

\textbf{Alias:} none

\textbf{Argument(s):} REALLIST

\section*{Description}

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see \texttt{objective_functions}), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \( +\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than \( -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}\)).
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
 a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
 Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \( +\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as \( +\text{infinity} \) and any lower bound values less than \( -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) are treated as \( -\text{infinity} \).

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \( -\text{DBL\_MAX} \leq -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \)).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U \\
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L \leq \hat{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
  - 'none' - ignored
  - 'value' - required
  - 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints:

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

linear_equality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear_equalities
- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- linear_equalities

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$
linear_equation_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_mmfd
- linear_equation_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_equation_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- ’none’ - no scaling
- ’value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equation_scales must be specified
- ’auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x} = \frac{x - x_O}{x_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).
linear\_equality\_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot\_mmfd
- linear\_equality\_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear\_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear\_equality\_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
$$

$$
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

**model\_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot\_mmfd
- model\_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.
See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
  0.1 0.2 0.6
  0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

cas_model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'
```

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
    id_interface = 'I1'
    system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
    response_functions = 3
    no_gradients
    no_hessians

6.2.17 dot_bfgs

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_bfgs

A conjugate gradient optimization method

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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### Description

This is a duplicated keyword. Please use `dot` instead.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `bfgs`

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- `dot_bfgs`
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to $-\infty$, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

topics

• Keywords Area
• method
• dot_bfgs
• linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.0\times10^{30}$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot_bfgs**
- **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear\_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see **objective\_functions**), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.0\times10^{30}$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).
linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_bfgs
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}_j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).
linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_bfgs
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `none` - ignored
  - `value` - required
  - `auto` - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$. 
linear.equality.constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot.bfgs
- linear.equality.constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear.equality.targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot.bfgs
- linear.equality.targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description
In the equality case, the targets \( a_t \) provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

\[ Ax = a_t. \]

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint: \( Ax = 0.0 \)

**linear.equality.scale_types**

- **Keywords** Area
- method
- dot_bfgs
- linear.equality.scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
**linear.equality.scale_types** provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.
An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- **'none'** - no scaling
- **'value'** - characteristic value if this is chosen, then **linear.equality.scales** must be specified
- **'auto'** - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied *after* any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - \bar{x}_O}{\bar{x}_M - \bar{x}_O} \]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \bar{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \bar{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear Equality.scales**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot.bfgs
- linear.Equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in **linear.Equality.scales** may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the **scaling** page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied *after* any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[ \tilde{x}_j^i = \frac{x_j^i - x_O^i}{x_M^j} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \bar{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \bar{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_bfgs
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SRR'
  sampling,
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765 rng rnum2
  response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SRR'
  surrogate global,
```
```plaintext
dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = ‘DACE’
model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = ‘DACE_M’
single
interface_pointer = ‘I1’

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
id_interface = ‘I1’
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.18 dot_slp

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_slp

Sequential Linear Programming

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword     | Dakota Keyword Description  |
| Optional   | Optional Group | linear_inequality-  | Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints |
|            |                | constraint_matrix   |                              |
## Method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>linear_inequality._lower_bounds</strong></td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>linear_inequality._upper_bounds</strong></td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>linear_inequality._scale_types</strong></td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
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<td><strong>linear_equation._constraint_matrix</strong></td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>linear_equation._targets</strong></td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>linear_equation._scale_types</strong></td>
<td>Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>linear_equation._scales</strong></td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>model_pointer</strong></td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

This is a duplicated keyword. Please use `dot` instead.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `slp`

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- `dot_slp`
• linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
• linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

• Keywords Area
• method
• dot_slp
• linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
• linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBLMAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_slp
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \(+\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as \(+\infty\) and any lower bound values less than \(-\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) are treated as \(-\infty\).

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\text{DBL}\text{MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}\)).

**linear\_inequality\_scale\_types**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot\_slp
- linear\_inequality\_scale\_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear\_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

**linear\_inequality\_scale\_types** provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- ‘none’ - no scaling
- ‘value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear\_inequality\_scales must be specified
- ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \(x\):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]
6.2. METHOD

\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- **dot_slp**
- **linear_inequality_scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- **scale_type** - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
  - ‘none’ - ignored
  - ‘value’ - required
  - ‘auto’ - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U \]
$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$

$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$

$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear equality constraint matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_slp
- linear equality constraint matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

**linear equality targets**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_slp
- linear equality targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0 for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0$$

linear_equalityEngine_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_slp
- linear_equalityEngine_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_equalityEngine_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equalityEngine_scales must be specified
• ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

**linear.equality.scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot.slp**
- **linear.equality.scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear.constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in **linear.equality.scales** may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the **scaling** page for details on how to use this keyword.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$
we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot_slp**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The **model_pointer** is used to specify which **model** block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a **model** block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding **id_model** with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a **model-pointer** for each method is imperative.

See **block_pointer** for details about pointers.
Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
    surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
    system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

6.2.19 **dot_sqp**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot_sqp**

Sequential Quadratic Program
## 6.2. METHOD

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equation_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equation_-targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equation_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equation_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

This is a duplicated keyword. Please use dot instead.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- sqp

`linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

`linear_inequality_lower_bounds`

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constraint matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize ($1.0e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds
- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - \bar{x}^j}{\bar{x}^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot_sqp**
- **linear_inequality_scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- **scale_type** - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `'none'` - ignored
  - `'value'` - required
  - `'auto'` - optional
If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

### linear_equality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

### Specification

**Alias:** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REALLIST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

\[
Ax = a_t
\]
6.2. METHOD

linear equality targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- linear equality targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$

linear equality scale types

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot_sqp
- linear equality scale types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
**Description**

`linear.equality_scale_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear.equality.scales` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear.equality.scales**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot.sqp
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

Each entry in linear\_equality\_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

model\_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot\_sqp
- model\_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block\_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

**Examples**

environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
6.2. METHOD

response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.20 dot

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot

Access to methods in the DOT package

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_dot

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required(Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>frcg</td>
<td>A conjugate gradient optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mmfd</td>
<td>Method of feasible directions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bfgs</td>
<td>A conjugate gradient optimization method</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>slp</td>
<td>Sequential Linear Programming</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sqp</td>
<td>Sequential Quadratic Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Optional Keywords

| Optional | linear_inequality_-lower_bounds | Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
| Optional | linear_inequality_-upper_bounds | Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
| Optional | linear_inequality_-scale_types | Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | linear_inequality_-scales | Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities |
| Optional | linear_equality_-constraint_matrix | Define coefficients of the linear equalities |
| Optional | linear_equality_-targets | Define target values for the linear equality constraints |
| Optional | linear_equality_-scale_types | Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | linear_equality_-scales | Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities |
| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

### Description

The DOT library \[86\] "Vanderplaats Research and Development, 1995" contains nonlinear programming optimizers, specifically the Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (Dakota's dot_bfgs method) and Fletcher-Reeves conjugate gradient (Dakota's dot_frcg method) methods for unconstrained optimization, and the modified method of feasible directions (Dakota's dot_mmfd method), sequential linear programming (Dakota's dot_slp method), and sequential quadratic programming (Dakota's dot_sqp method) methods for constrained optimization.

Specialized handling of linear constraints is supported with DOT; linear constraint coefficients, bounds, and targets can be provided to DOT at start-up and tracked internally.

One of the five available methods in Group 1 must be specified.

All these methods take the same **Optional Keywords**, dealing with linear equality and inequality constraints.

**Method Independent Controls - Stopping Criteria**

Stopping critiera are set by:

- **max_iterations**
6.2. METHOD

- max_function_evaluations
- convergence_tolerance
- constraint_tolerance

Note: The convergence_tolerance criterion must be satisfied for two consecutive iterations before DOT will terminate.

Method Independent Controls - Output

The output verbosity specification controls the amount of information generated by DOT: the silent and quiet settings result in header information, final results, and objective function, constraint, and parameter information on each iteration; whereas the verbose and debug settings add additional information on gradients, search direction, one-dimensional search results, and parameter scaling factors.

Concurrency

DOT contains no parallel algorithms which can directly take advantage of concurrent evaluations. However, if numerical_gradients with method_source dakota is specified, then the finite difference function evaluations can be performed concurrently (using any of the parallel modes described in the Users Manual ["Adams et al., 2010"]). In addition, if speculative is specified, then gradients (dakota numerical or analytic gradients) will be computed on each line search evaluation in order to balance the load and lower the total run time in parallel optimization studies.

freg

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- freg

A conjugate gradient optimization method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_dot

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

We here provide a caution regarding dot_frcg. In DOT Version 4.20, we have noticed inconsistent behavior of this algorithm across different versions of Linux. Our best assessment is that it is due to different treatments of uninitialized variables. As we do not know the intention of the code authors and maintaining DOT source code is outside of the Dakota project scope, we have not made nor are we recommending any code changes to address this. However, all users who use dot_frcg in DOT Version 4.20 should be aware that results may not be reliable.

See package_dot for information related to all DOT methods.
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- bfgs
- mmfd
- slp
- sqp

mmfd

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- mmfd

Method of feasible directions

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package.dot

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

See package.dot for information related to all DOT methods.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- bfgs
- frcg
- slp
- sqp
6.2. METHOD

bfgs

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- bfgs

A conjugate gradient optimization method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package dot

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
See package dot for information related to all DOT methods.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:
- freg
- mmfd
- slp
- sqp

slp

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- slp

Sequential Linear Programming

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package dot
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
   Argument(s): none

Description

See package dot for information related to all DOT methods.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- bfgs
- frcg
- mmfd
- sqp

sqp

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- sqp

Sequential Quadratic Program

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_dot

Specification

Alias: none
   Argument(s): none

Description

See package dot for information related to all DOT methods.
6.2. METHOD

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- bfgs
- frcg
- mmfd
- slp

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to $-\infty$, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower \(a_l\) and upper \(a_u\) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where \(A\) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \(+\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) \((1.e+30, \text{as defined in Minimizer})\) are treated as \(+\text{infinity}\) and any lower bound values less than \(-\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) are treated as \(-\text{infinity}\).

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}\)).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dot**
- **linear_inequality_scale_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

Specification

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: STRINGLIST

Description

*linear_inequality_scale_types* provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then *linear_inequality_scales* must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_0}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
\begin{align*}
a_L & \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
a_L & \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_0) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_0 & \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_0 \\
\tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

**linear_inequality_scales**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - 'none' - ignored
  - 'value' - required
  - 'auto' - optional
If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint. Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):
\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]
we have the following system for linear inequality constraints
\[
\begin{align*}
a_L & \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
A_i \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) & \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O & \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} - A_i x_O) \\
\tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]
and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear.equality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- linear.equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:
\[
Ax = a_t
\]
linear.equality.targets
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - dot
  - linear.equality.targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint: $Ax = 0.0$

linear.equality.scale.types
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - dot
  - linear.equality.scale.types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

linear.equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.equality.scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear.equality.scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- dot
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = ‘UQ’

method
  id_method = ‘UQ’
  model_pointer = ‘SURR’
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = ‘SURR’
  surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = ‘DACE’
  model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = ‘DACE_M’
  single
  interface_pointer = ‘I1’

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
```
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.21 conmin_frcg

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_frcg

A conjugate gradient optimization method

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument(s): none</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required/-Optional</td>
</tr>
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<td>Description of Group</td>
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<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description
This is a duplicated keyword. Please use `conmin` instead.

### See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:
- `freg`

### linear_inequality_constraint_matrix
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **conmin_freg**
- **linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

### Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- **linear_constraints**

### Specification
**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

### Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$
Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

```
linear_inequality_lower_bounds
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **conmin_frcg**
- **linear_inequality_lower_bounds**

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** `REALLIST`

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than `+bigRealBoundSize` (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than `-bigRealBoundSize` are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since `-DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize`).
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_frcg
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

 Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_frcg
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i \left( \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O \right) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_frcg
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities.
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
- 'none' - ignored
- 'value' - required
- 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_frcg
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear.Equality_Targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_frcg
- linear.equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$
6.2. METHOD

linear.equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin.frcg
- linear.equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear.equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.equality.scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\hat{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\hat{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\hat{a}_L \leq \hat{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \hat{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
linear\_equality\_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin\_frcg
- linear\_equality\_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear\_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in linear\_equality\_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
\begin{align*}
a_L & \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U \\
a_L & \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
a_L & - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**model\_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin\_frcg
- model\_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SRR'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
        samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'
```
variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.22 conmin_mfd

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_mfd

Method of feasible directions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description
This is a duplicated keyword. Please use `conmin` instead.

### See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- `mfd`

#### linear_inequality_constraint_matrix
- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `conmin_mfd`
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

### Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none  
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear.inequality.lower_bounds`, and `linear.inequality.upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to $-\infty$, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear.inequality.lower.bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_mfd
- linear.inequality.lower.bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification
Alias: none  
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients. As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).

**linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **conmin_mfd**
- **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
Ax \leq 0,0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).
linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin.mfd
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
\begin{align*}
a_L & \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
\tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O & \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords: Area
- method
- conmin_mfd
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
  - 'none' - ignored
  - 'value' - required
  - 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
linear_equality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_mfd
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear_equality_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_mfd
- linear_equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description
In the equality case, the targets \( a_t \) provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

\[
Ax = a_t
\]

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

\[
Ax = 0
\]

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin.mfd
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.equality.scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_Q}{x^j_M - x^j_Q}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]
and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear.equality.scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin.mfd
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear.equality.scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U \\
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
6.2. METHOD

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin_mfd
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
  response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                 0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
ch6-keywords-area

```
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.23 conmin
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **conmin**

Access to methods in the CONMIN library

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_conmin

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
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CASL-U-2015-0089-000
## 6.2. METHOD

### Description

The CONMIN library ([84] "Vanderplaats, 1973") is a public domain library of nonlinear programming optimizers, specifically the Fletcher-Reeves conjugate gradient (Dakota’s `conmin_frcg` method) method for unconstrained optimization, and the method of feasible directions (Dakota’s `conmin_mfd` method) for constrained optimization. As CONMIN was a predecessor to the DOT commercial library, the algorithm controls are very

<table>
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<th><code>frcg</code></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A conjugate gradient optimization method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Optional              | `mfd`   | Method of feasible directions |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix` | Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_inequality_-lower_bounds` | Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_inequality_-upper_bounds` | Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_inequality_-scale_types` | Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_inequality_-scales` | Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_equality_-constraint_matrix` | Define coefficients of the linear equalities |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_equality_-targets` | Define target values for the linear equality constraints |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_equality_-scale_types` | Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `linear_equality_-scales` | Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities |
|                       |         |                                |

| Optional              | `model_pointer` | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |
similar.

One of the two available methods in **Group 1** must be specified.
All these methods take the same **Optional Keywords**, dealing with linear equality and inequality constraints.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- dot

**frcg**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- conmin
- frcg

A conjugate gradient optimization method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_conmin

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The interpretations of the method independent controls for CONMIN are essentially identical to those for DOT.

See **package_dot** for information related to CONMIN methods.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- mfd
- frcg

**mfd**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- conmin
- mfd

Method of feasible directions
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_conmin

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The interpretations of the method independent controls for CONMIN are essentially identical to those for DOT. See package_dot for information related to CONMIN methods.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- frcg
- mmfd

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
**Description**

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

**linear_inequality_lower_bounds**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **conmin**
- **linear_inequality_lower_bounds**

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_upper_bounds
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • conmin
  • linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  • linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
 a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
 Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \(+\)bigRealBoundSize (\(1.e+30\), as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than \(-\)bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\)DBL_MAX < \(-\)bigRealBoundSize).

linear_inequality_scale_types
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • conmin
  • linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M^j)\tilde{x} + x_O^j) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M^j)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area

- method

- conmin

- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint. Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
- ‘none’ - ignored
- ‘value’ - required
- ‘auto’ - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linearequality_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin
- linearequality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$
6.2. METHOD

**linear\_equality\_scale\_types**

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin
- linear\_equality\_scale\_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear\_constraints

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

`linear\_equality\_scale\_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear\_equality\_scales` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \(x\):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic scaling, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).
linear_equality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin
- linear_equality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x^j - x^O_{M}}{x^O_{M}}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
\begin{align*}
    a_L \leq A_i x & \leq a_U \\
    a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x^O) & \leq a_U \\
    a_L - A_i x^O & \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x^O \\
    \hat{a}_L \leq \hat{A}_i \tilde{x} & \leq \hat{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- conmin
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'Surr'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
          0.1 0.2 0.6
          0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'Surr'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'
```
variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.24 dl_solver
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • dl_solver

  (Experimental) Dynamically-loaded solver

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  • optimization_and_calibration

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

This keyword specifies a dynamically-loaded optimization solver library, an experimental Dakota feature that is not enabled by default.

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Spec/ration

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear.inequality.lower_bounds, and linear.inequality.upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear.inequality.lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear.inequality.lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Spec/ration

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective.functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0,0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).
linear_inequality_scale_types

• Keywords Area
• method
• dl_solver
• linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

• 'none' - no scaling
• 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
• 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `'none'` - ignored
  - `'value'` - required
  - `'auto'` - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\bar{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \hat{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \hat{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).
linear_equation_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear_equation_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear_equation_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear_equation_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0$$

linear_equalty_scale_types

• Keywords Area
• method
• dl_solver
• linear_equalty_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_equalty_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

• ‘none’ - no scaling
• ‘value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equalty_scales must be specified
• ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{Q}}{x_{M}}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_ix \leq a_U$$
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]
and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear.equality.scales**
- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear.constraints

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**
Each entry in `linear.equality.scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.
See the `scaling` page for details on how to use this keyword.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \(x\):
\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j} \]
we have the following system for linear inequality constraints
\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]
and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).
6.2. METHOD

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- dl_solver
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SRR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6

sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
```plaintext
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.25 npsol_sqp

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp

Sequential Quadratic Program

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_npsol
- sequential_quadratic_programming
- local_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>verify_level</td>
<td>Verify the quality of analytic gradients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>function_precision</td>
<td>Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linesearch_-tolerance</td>
<td>Choose how accurately the algorithm will compute the minimum in a line search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_equality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Optional | linear.equality-targets | Define target values for the linear equality constraints |
| Optional | linear.equality-scale_types | Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | linear.equality-scales | Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities |
| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

**Description**

NPSOL provides an implementation of sequential quadratic programming that can be accessed with npsol_sqp.

**Stopping Criteria**

The method independent controls for max_iterations and max_function_evaluations limit the number of major SQP iterations and the number of function evaluations that can be performed during an NPSOL optimization. The convergence_tolerance control defines NPSOL’s internal optimality tolerance which is used in evaluating if an iterate satisfies the first-order Kuhn-Tucker conditions for a minimum. The magnitude of convergence_tolerance approximately specifies the number of significant digits of accuracy desired in the final objective function (e.g., convergence_tolerance = 1.e-6 will result in approximately six digits of accuracy in the final objective function). The constraint_tolerance control defines how tightly the constraint functions are satisfied at convergence. The default value is dependent upon the machine precision of the platform in use, but is typically on the order of 1.e-8 for double precision computations. Extremely small values for constraint_tolerance may not be attainable. The output verbosity setting controls the amount of information generated at each major SQP iteration: the silent and quiet settings result in only one line of diagnostic output for each major iteration and print the final optimization solution, whereas the verbose and debug settings add additional information on the objective function, constraints, and variables at each major iteration.

**Concurrency**

NPSOL is not a parallel algorithm and cannot directly take advantage of concurrent evaluations. However, if numerical_gradients with method_source dakota is specified, then the finite difference function evaluations can be performed concurrently (using any of the parallel modes described in the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010”]).

An important related observation is the fact that NPSOL uses two different line searches depending on how gradients are computed. For either analytic_gradients or numerical_gradients with method_source dakota, NPSOL is placed in user-supplied gradient mode (NPSOL’s "Derivative Level” is set to 3) and it uses a gradient-based line search (the assumption is that user-supplied gradients are inexpensive). On the other hand, if numerical_gradients are selected with method_source vendor, then NPSOL is computing finite differences internally and it will use a value-based line search (the assumption is that finite differencing on each line search evaluation is too expensive). The ramifications of this are: (1) performance will vary between method_source dakota and method_source vendor for numerical_gradients, and (2) gradient speculation is unnecessary when performing optimization in parallel since the gradient-based line search in user-supplied gradient mode is already load balanced for parallel execution. Therefore, a speculative specification...
will be ignored by NPSOL, and optimization with numerical gradients should select `method_source dakota` for load balanced parallel operation and `method_source vendor` for efficient serial operation.

**Linear constraints**

Lastly, NPSOL supports specialized handling of linear inequality and equality constraints. By specifying the coefficients and bounds of the linear inequality constraints and the coefficients and targets of the linear equality constraints, this information can be provided to NPSOL at initialization and tracked internally, removing the need for the user to provide the values of the linear constraints on every function evaluation.

**verify_level**

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- verify_level

Verify the quality of analytic gradients

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

**Description**

`verify_level` instructs the NPSOL and NLSSOL algorithms to perform their own finite difference verification of the gradients provided by Dakota. Typically these are used to verify analytic_gradients produced by a simulation code, though the option can be used with other Dakota-supplied gradient types including numerical or mixed.

Level 1 will verify the objective gradients, level 2, the nonlinear constraint gradients, and level 3, both. See the Optional Input Parameters section of the NPSOL manual[33] for additional information, including options to verify at the user-supplied initial point vs. first feasible point.

**function_precision**

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- function_precision

Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The function_precision control provides the algorithm with an estimate of the accuracy to which the problem functions can be computed. This is used to prevent the algorithm from trying to distinguish between function values that differ by less than the inherent error in the calculation.

linesearch_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linesearch_tolerance

Choose how accurately the algorithm will compute the minimum in a line search

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The linesearch_tolerance setting controls the accuracy of the line search. The smaller the value (between 0 and 1), the more accurately the algorithm will attempt to compute a precise minimum along the search direction.

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds` and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\text{infinity}$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\text{infinity}$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBLMAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).
linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in `linear.inequality.scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear.inequality.scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear.inequality.scales`
  - `'none'` - ignored
  - `'value'` - required
  - `'auto'` - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

`linear.equality_constraint_matrix`

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- `linear.equality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
6.2. Method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear Equality targets
- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear Equality targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$
linear\_equality\_scale\_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol\_sqp
- linear\_equality\_scale\_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear\_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear\_equality\_scale\_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear\_equality\_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{Oj}}{x_{Mj}}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
6.2. METHOD

linear_equality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- linear_equality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_{O}^j}{x_{M}^j}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- npsol_sqp
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples
environment
   tabular_graphics_data
   method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
   id_method = 'UQ'
   model_pointer = 'Surr'
   sampling,
       samples = 10
       seed = 98765 rng rnum2
       response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
       0.1 0.2 0.6
       0.1 0.2 0.6
   sample_type lhs
   distribution cumulative

model
   id_model = 'Surr'
   surrogate global,
   dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
   polynomial quadratic

method
   id_method = 'DACE'
   model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
   sampling sample_type lhs
   samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
   id_model = 'DACE_M'
   single
   interface_pointer = 'I1'
6.2. METHOD

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
id_interface = ‘I1’
system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.26 nlssol_sqp

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlssol_sqp

Sequential Quadratic Program for nonlinear least squares

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- sequential.quadratic.programming
- nonlinear.least.squares

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>verify_level</td>
<td>verify_level</td>
<td>Verify the quality of analytic gradients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>function_precision</td>
<td>function_precision</td>
<td>Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
### Optional

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Parameter Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>linesearch_tolerance</td>
<td>Choose how accurately the algorithm will compute the minimum in a line search.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_equation_constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_equation_targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_equation_scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_equation_scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

NLSSOL is available as `nlssol_sqp` and supports unconstrained, bound-constrained, and generally-constrained problems. It exploits the structure of a least squares objective function through the periodic use of Gauss-Newton Hessian approximations to accelerate the SQP algorithm.

### Stopping Criteria
The method independent controls for `max_iterations` and `max_function_evaluations` limit the number of major SQP iterations and the number of function evaluations that can be performed during an NPSOL optimization. The `convergence_tolerance` control defines NPSOL’s internal optimality tolerance which is used in evaluating if an iterate satisfies the first-order Kuhn-Tucker conditions for a minimum. The magnitude of `convergence_tolerance` approximately specifies the number of significant digits of accuracy desired in the final objective function (e.g., `convergence_tolerance = 1.e-6` will result in approximately six digits of accuracy in the final objective function). The `constraint_tolerance` control defines how tightly the constraint functions are satisfied at convergence. The default value is dependent upon the machine precision of the platform in use, but is typically on the order of `1.e-8` for double precision computations. Extremely small values for `constraint_tolerance` may not be attainable.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `npsol_sqp`
- `nl2sol`
- `optpp_g_newton`

**verify_level**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **nlssol_sqp**
- **verify_level**

Verify the quality of analytic gradients

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

`verify_level` instructs the NPSOL and NLSSOL algorithms to perform their own finite difference verification of the gradients provided by Dakota. Typically these are used to verify analytic_gradients produced by a simulation code, though the option can be used with other Dakota-supplied gradient types including numerical or mixed.

Level 1 will verify the objective gradients, level 2, the nonlinear constraint gradients, and level 3, both. See the Optional Input Parameters section of the NPSOL manual[33] for additional information, including options to verify at the user-supplied initial point vs. first feasible point.
function_precision
  "Keywords Area"
  "method"
  "nlssol_sqp"
  "function_precision"

Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

The `function_precision` control provides the algorithm with an estimate of the accuracy to which the problem functions can be computed. This is used to prevent the algorithm from trying to distinguish between function values that differ by less than the inherent error in the calculation.

linesearch_tolerance
  "Keywords Area"
  "method"
  "nlssol_sqp"
  "linesearch_tolerance"

Choose how accurately the algorithm will compute the minimum in a line search

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

The `linesearch_tolerance` setting controls the accuracy of the line search. The smaller the value (between 0 and 1), the more accurately the algorithm will attempt to compute a precise minimum along the search direction.

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix
  "Keywords Area"
  "method"
  "nlssol_sqp"
  "linear_inequality_constraint_matrix"

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

\[
\begin{align*}
  a_l & \leq Ax \leq a_u \\
  A x & \leq 0
\end{align*}
\]

Where the bounds are optionally specified by \texttt{linear.inequality.lower.bounds}, and \texttt{linear.inequality.upper.bounds}. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
A x \leq 0.0
\]

linear.inequality.lower.bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlssol_sqp
- linear.inequality.lower.bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBLMAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **nlssol_sqp**
- **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s):* REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-_\text{DBL}\text{MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- **nlssol_sqp**
- **linear_inequality_scale_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

*linear_inequality_scale_types* provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- **'none'** - no scaling
- **'value'** - characteristic value if this is chosen, then *linear_inequality_scales* must be specified
- **'auto'** - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied *after* any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$x^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_L}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)x + x_O) \leq a_U$$
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **nlssol_sqp**
- **linear_inequality_scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- **scale_type** - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
- 'none' - ignored
- 'value' - required
- 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \(x\):

\[ \tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{jO}}{x_{jM}} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U \]
6.2. METHOD

\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear equality constraint matrix**
- Keywords Area
- method
- nlssol_sqp
- linear equality constraint matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear constraints

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**
In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:
\[ Ax = a_t \]

**linear equality targets**
- Keywords Area
- method
- nlssol_sqp
- linear equality targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlssol_sqp
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `none` - no scaling
- `value` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equality_scales must be specified
6.2. METHOD

- ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equation_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlssol_sqp
- linear_equation_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equation_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]
we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\hat{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\hat{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **nlssol_sqp**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

**Description**

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURRE'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURRE'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.27 stanford

- Keywords Area
- method
- stanford

Select methods from the Stanford package
### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>npsol</td>
<td>Duplicate of method-npsol-sqp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>nlssol</td>
<td>Duplicate of method-nlssol-sqp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>verify_level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>function_precision</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_upper_bounds</td>
<td>linear_inequality_scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Optional linear inequality - scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

Optional linear equality - constraint matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

Optional linear equality - targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Optional linear equality - scale types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Optional linear equality - scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Optional model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Description**

This is a duplicate. See the method pages here:

- nlssol_sqp
- npsol_sqp

**npsol**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stanford
- npsol

Duplicate of method-npsol_sqp

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See the page for npsol_sqp
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

nlssol
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • stanford
  • nlssol

Duplicate of method-nlssol_sqp

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
See the page for nlssol_sqp

verify_level
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • stanford
  • verify_level

Verify the quality of analytic gradients

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
verify_level instructs the NPSOL and NLSSOL algorithms to perform their own finite difference verification of the gradients provided by Dakota. Typically these are used to verify analytic_gradients produced by a simulation code, though the option can be used with other Dakota-supplied gradient types including numerical or mixed.

Level 1 will verify the objective gradients, level 2, the nonlinear constraint gradients, and level 3, both. See the Optional Input Parameters section of the NPSOL manual[33] for additional information, including options to verify at the user-supplied initial point vs. first feasible point.
6.2. METHOD

**function_precision**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **function_precision**

Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The *function_precision* control provides the algorithm with an estimate of the accuracy to which the problem functions can be computed. This is used to prevent the algorithm from trying to distinguish between function values that differ by less than the inherent error in the calculation.

**linesearch_tolerance**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **linesearch_tolerance**

Choose how accurately the algorithm will compute the minimum in a line search

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The *linesearch_tolerance* setting controls the accuracy of the line search. The smaller the value (between 0 and 1), the more accurately the algorithm will attempt to compute a precise minimum along the search direction.

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- stanford
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. *METHOD*

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBLMAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stanford
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_j \tilde{x} \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L \leq A_j (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
6.2. METHOD

\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords** Area
- method
- stanford
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in **linear_inequality_scales** may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of **linear_inequality_scale_type**:

- **scale_type** - behavior of **linear_inequality_scales**
  - ’none’ - ignored
  - ’value’ - required
  - ’auto’ - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[ \tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U \]
\[
\begin{align*}
    a_L & \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\bar{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
    a_L - A_i x_O & \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\bar{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
    \tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_equal\_ity\_constraint\_matrix**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **linear_equal\_ity\_constraint\_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

\[ Ax = a_t \]

**linear_equal\_ity\_targets**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **linear_equal\_ity\_targets**

Define target values for the linear equality constraints
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of $0.$ for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.$$

linear_uniform_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- stanford
- linear_uniform_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_uniform_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- ‘none’ - no scaling
- ‘value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_uniform_scales must be specified
• ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equality_scales

• Keywords Area

• method

• stanford

• linear_equality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in **linear_equality_scales** may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}$$
we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \hat{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \hat{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]

\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stanford**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model-pointer` for each method is imperative. See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.
Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURRE'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURRE'
    surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0.0
    upper_bounds = 1.1
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

6.2.28 \textit{nlpql_spq} \hfill

- Keywords Area
- method
- \textit{nlpql_spq}

Sequential Quadratic Program
6.2. METHOD

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_nlpql
- sequential_quadratic_programming
- local_optimization_methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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**Description**

NLPQL provides an implementation of sequential quadratic programming through nlpql.sqp. The particular SQP implementation in nlpql.sqp uses a variant with distributed and non-monotone line search. Thus, this variant is designed to be more robust in the presence of inaccurate or noisy gradients common in many engineering applications.

The method independent controls for maximum iterations and output verbosity are mapped to NLPQL controls MAXIT and IPRINT, respectively. The maximum number of function evaluations is enforced within the NLPQLPOptimizer class.

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql.sqp
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$
6.2. METHOD

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql_sqp
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \( +\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than \( -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \( -\text{DBLMAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \)).
linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql_sqp
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
 a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
 Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql_sqp
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

• ’none’ - no scaling
• ’value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
• ’auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}
$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints:

$$
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L \leq A_i \left( \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O \right) \leq a_U
$$

$$
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_scales

• Keywords Area
• method
• nlpql sqp
• linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:
- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
- 'none' - ignored
- 'value' - required
- 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equality_constraint_matrix
- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpl_sqp
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear.equalsity targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql_sqp
- linear.equalsity targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0 for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$
linear\_equality\_scale\_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql\_sqp
- linear\_equality\_scale\_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear\_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear\_equality\_scale\_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear\_equality\_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$
\begin{align*}
    a_L & \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
    a_L & \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
    a_L - A_i x^O & \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x^O \\
    \tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
6.2. METHOD

linear_equation_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql_sqp
- linear_equation_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equation_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- nlpql_sqp
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
          0.1 0.2 0.6
          0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = ‘SURR’
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = ‘DACE’
model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = ‘DACE_M’
single
interface_pointer = ‘II’
variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.29 optpp_cg

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg

A conjugate gradient optimization method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_optpp
- local_optimization_methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Max change in design point Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Description

The conjugate gradient method is an implementation of the Polak-Ribiere approach and handles only unconstrained problems.

See package optpp for info related to all optpp methods.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `optpp.g_newton`
- `optpp.pds`
- `optpp.fd_newton`
- `optpp.newton`
6.2. METHOD

- `optpp_g_newton`

**max_step**

- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `optpp_cg`
- `max_step`

Max change in design point

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

The `max_step` control specifies the maximum step that can be taken when computing a change in the current design point (e.g., limiting the Newton step computed from current gradient and Hessian information). It is equivalent to a move limit or a maximum trust region size. The `gradient_tolerance` control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The `gradient_tolerance` control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

**gradient_tolerance**

- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `optpp_cg`
- `gradient_tolerance`

Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

The `gradient_tolerance` control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The `gradient_tolerance` control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.
linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints
Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\text{infinity}$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\text{infinity}$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL}\_\text{MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\hat{a}_L \leq \hat{A}_i \hat{x} \leq \hat{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- **optpp_cg**
- **linear_inequality_scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- **scale_type** - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
- `'none'` - ignored
- `'value'` - required
- `'auto'` - optional
If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

**linear.equality.constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.cg
- linear.equality.constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$
6.2. METHOD

linear_equality_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- linear_equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
**Description**

`linear_equalit_scale_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear_equalit_scale_types` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_equalit_scale_types**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_cg**
- **linear_equalit_scale_types**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
6.2. Method

Description

Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
\begin{align*}
  a_L &\leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
  a_L &\leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
  a_L - A_i x_O &\leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
  \tilde{a}_L &\leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \\
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_cg
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
6.2. METHOD

response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.30 optpp_q_newton

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton

Quasi-Newton optimization method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_optpp
- local_optimization_methods

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

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<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>path&quot;</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_step</td>
<td>Max change in design point</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>gradient_tolerance</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_-targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

This is a Newton method that expects a gradient and computes a low-rank approximation to the Hessian. Each of the Newton-based methods are automatically bound to the appropriate OPT++ algorithm based on the user constraint specification (unconstrained, bound-constrained, or generally-constrained). In the generally-constrained case, the Newton methods use a nonlinear interior-point approach to manage the constraints.

See `package_optpp` for info related to all `optpp` methods.
6.2. METHOD

search_method

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- search_method

Select a search method for Newton-based optimizers

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Required(Choose One)</strong></td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>value_based_line_search</td>
<td>Use only function values for line search</td>
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<tr>
<td>gradient_based_line_search</td>
<td>Set the search method to use the gradient</td>
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<td>trust_region</td>
<td>Use trust region as the globalization strategy.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>tr_pds</td>
<td>Use direct search as the local search in a trust region method</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method.

Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**value_based_line_search**

- Keywords Area
- method
• optpp_q.newton
• search_method
• value_based_line_search

Use only function values for line search

**Specification**

- **Alias:** none
- **Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**gradient_based_line_search**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_q.newton**
- **search_method**
- **gradient_based_line_search**

Set the search method to use the gradient

**Specification**

- **Alias:** none
- **Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method...
6.2. METHOD

method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the *value_based_line_search* method is preferred to the *gradient_based_line_search* method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the *tr_pds* selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a *trust_region* search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**trust_region**

- Keywords Area
- method
- **optpp_q_newton**
- search_method
- trust_region

Use trust region as the globalization strategy.

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

The *trust_region* optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using *initial_size*) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using *minimum_size*), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using *contraction_factor*) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using *expansion_factor*) used when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using *contract_threshold*) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using *expand_threshold*). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command *contract_threshold* sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command *expand_threshold* determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

**tr_pds**

- Keywords Area
- method
- **optpp_q_newton**
- search_method
- tr_pds

Use direct search as the local search in a trust region method
Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [[62] "More and Thuente, 1994"]. This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

merit_function

- Keywords Area
- method
- `optpp_q_newton`
- `merit_function`

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td><code>el_bakry</code></td>
<td>El-Bakry merit function</td>
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<tr>
<td>argaez_tapia</td>
<td>The merit function by Tapia and Argaez</td>
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<tr>
<td>van_shanno</td>
<td>The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

A `merit_function` is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.
6.2. **METHOD**

**el_bakry**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_q_newton**
- **merit_function**
- **el_bakry**

El-Bakry merit function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The "el_bakry" merit function is the L2-norm of the first order optimality conditions for the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is n+1 function evaluations. For more information, see [[19] "El-Bakry et al., 1996)].

**argaez_tapia**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_q_newton**
- **merit_function**
- **argaez_tapia**

The merit function by Tapia and Argaez

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The "argaez_tapia" merit function can be classified as a modified augmented Lagrangian function. The augmented Lagrangian is modified by adding to its penalty term a potential reduction function to handle the perturbed complementarity condition. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information, see [[81] "Tapia and Argaez]

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the **merit_function** to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".
van_shanno

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- merit_function
- van_shanno

The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The "van_shanno" merit function can be classified as a penalty function for the logarithmic barrier formulation of the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information see [83] "Vanderbei and Shanno, 1999".

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit_function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

steplength_to_boundary

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- steplength_to_boundary

Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The steplength_to_boundary specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move. A value of 1 means that the algorithm is allowed to take steps that may reach the boundary of the feasible region. If the user wishes to maintain strict feasibility of the design parameters this value should be less than 1. Default values are .8, .99995, and .95 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.
6.2. METHOD

**centering parameter**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- centering parameter

Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path"

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The centering parameter specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path". See [89] "Wright" for the definition of central path. The larger the value, the more closely the algorithm follows the central path, which results in small steps. A value of 0 indicates that the algorithm will take a pure Newton step. Default values are .2, .2, and .1 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

**max_step**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- max_step

Max change in design point

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The max_step control specifies the maximum step that can be taken when computing a change in the current design point (e.g., limiting the Newton step computed from current gradient and Hessian information). It is equivalent to a move limit or a maximum trust region size. The gradient_tolerance control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The gradient_tolerance control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.
gradient_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.q_newton
- gradient_tolerance

Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `gradient_tolerance` control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The `gradient_tolerance` control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.q_newton
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds` and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0 $$

**linear_inequality_lower_bounds**

- **Keywords** Area
- method
- `optpp_q_newton`
- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:
- `linear_constraints`

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constraint matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than `+bigRealBoundSize` (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than `-bigRealBoundSize` are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since `-DBL_MAX` < `-bigRealBoundSize`).
linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \(+\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than \(-\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\text{DBL}\text{MAX} < \text{-bigRealBoundSize}\)).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
6.2. METHOD

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]

\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A_i} \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp-q_newton
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in linear_inequality.scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality.scale_type:

- "none" - ignored
- "value" - required
- "auto" - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_j^O}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
a_L \leq A_i \left( \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O \right) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

linear.equality.constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- linear.equality.constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - linearconstraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

\[
Ax = at
\]

linearequalitytargets
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - optpp_q_newton
  - linearequalitytargets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - linearconstraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets \( at \) provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

\[
Ax = at
\]

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

\[
Ax = 0.0
\]
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linear_equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].
6.2. METHOD

linear_equality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- linear_equality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_q_newton
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                     0.1 0.2 0.6
                     0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'II'
6.2. METHOD

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.31 optpp_fd_newton

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton

Finite Difference Newton optimization method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_optpp
- local_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required-/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>search_method</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select a search method for Newton-based optimizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>merit_function</td>
<td></td>
<td>Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>steplength_to_boundary</td>
<td>Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>centering_parameter</td>
<td>Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the &quot;central path&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_step</td>
<td>Max change in design point</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>gradient_tolerance</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_-targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

### Description

This is a Newton method that expects a gradient and computes a finite-difference approximation to the Hessian. Each of the Newton-based methods are automatically bound to the appropriate OPT++ algorithm based on the user constraint specification (unconstrained, bound-constrained, or generally-constrained). In the generally-constrained case, the Newton methods use a nonlinear interior-point approach to manage the constraints.

See package **optpp** for info related to all optpp methods.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- optpp_cg
- optpp_g_newton
- optpp_pds
- optpp_newton
- optpp_g_newton

**search_method**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- search_method

Select a search method for Newton-based optimizers

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
### Description

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [More and Thuente, 1994]. This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

### value_based_line_search

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_fd_newton**
- **search_method**
- **value_based_line_search**

Use only function values for line search

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description

The search_method control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between trust_region, gradient_based_line_search, and value_based_line_search methods. The gradient_based_line_search option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, value_based_line_search only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the gradient_based_line_search method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the value_based_line_search method is preferred to the gradient_based_line_search method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the tr_pds selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a trust_region search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

gradient_based_line_search

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- search_method
- gradient_based_line_search

Set the search method to use the gradient

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The search_method control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between trust_region, gradient_based_line_search, and value_based_line_search methods. The gradient_based_line_search option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, value_based_line_search only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the gradient_based_line_search method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the value_based_line_search method is preferred to the gradient_based_line_search method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the tr_pds selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a trust_region search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

trust_region

- Keywords Area
- method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- optpp_fd_newton
- search_method
- trust_region

Use trust region as the globalization strategy.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The trust_region optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using initial_size) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using minimum_size), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using contraction_factor) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using expansion_factor) used when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using contract_threshold) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using expand_threshold). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command contract_threshold sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command expand_threshold determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

tr_pds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- search_method
- tr_pds

Use direct search as the local search in a trust region method

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The search_method control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between trust_region, gradient_based_line_search, and value_based_line_search methods. The gradient_based_line_search option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, value_base_line_search only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the gradient_based_line_search
method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**merit_function**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- `optpp_fd_newton`
- `merit_function`

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<tr>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>El-Bakry merit function</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>argaez_tapia</code></td>
<td>The merit function by Tapia and Argaez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>van_shanno</code></td>
<td>The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

A `merit_function` is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.

**el_bakry**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- `optpp_fd_newton`
- `merit_function`
- `el_bakry`

El-Bakry merit function
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The "el_bakry" merit function is the L2-norm of the first order optimality conditions for the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is $n + 1$ function evaluations. For more information, see [19] "El-Bakry et al., 1996".

argaez_tapia

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- merit_function
- argaez_tapia

The merit function by Tapia and Argaez

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The "argaez_tapia" merit function can be classified as a modified augmented Lagrangian function. The augmented Lagrangian is modified by adding to its penalty term a potential reduction function to handle the perturbed complementarity condition. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information, see [81] "Tapia and Argaez".

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit_function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

van_shanno

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- merit_function
- van_shanno

The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The "van_shanno" merit function can be classified as a penalty function for the logarithmic barrier formulation of the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information see [[83] "Vanderbei and Shanno, 1999"].

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

steplength_to_boundary

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- steplength_to_boundary

Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The steplength_to_boundary specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move. A value of 1 means that the algorithm is allowed to take steps that may reach the boundary of the feasible region. If the user wishes to maintain strict feasibility of the design parameters this value should be less than 1. Default values are .8, .99995, and .95 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

centering_parameter

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- centering_parameter

Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path"

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The centering parameter specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path". See [89] "Wright" for the definition of central path. The larger the value, the more closely the algorithm follows the central path, which results in small steps. A value of 0 indicates that the algorithm will take a pure Newton step. Default values are .2, .2, and .1 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

max_step

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- max_step

Max change in design point

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The max_step control specifies the maximum step that can be taken when computing a change in the current design point (e.g., limiting the Newton step computed from current gradient and Hessian information). It is equivalent to a move limit or a maximum trust region size. The gradient tolerance control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The gradient tolerance control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

gradient_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- gradient_tolerance

Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `gradient_tolerance` control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The `gradient_tolerance` control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

`linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`  
- **Keywords Area**  
- method  
- `optpp_fd_newton`  
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`  

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** `REALIST`

**Description**

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

`linear_inequality_lower_bounds`  
- **Keywords Area**  
- method  
- `optpp_fd_newton`  
- `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`  

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
Ax \leq 0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \( +\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) (\( 1.e+30, \) as defined in Minimizer) are treated as \( +\infty \) and any lower bound values less than \( -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \) are treated as \( -\infty \).

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \( -\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize} \)).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

`linear_inequality_scale_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear_inequality_scales` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{jO}}{x_{jM}}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_{jO}) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_{jO} \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_{jO}$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_fd_newton**
- **linear_inequality_scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint. Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- **scale_type** - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `none` - ignored
  - `value` - required
  - `auto` - optional
6.2. METHOD

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{jO}}{x_{jM}}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear_equality_constraint_matrix**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- **optpp_fd_newton**
- **linear_equality_constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

\[
Ax = a_t
\]
linearEquality_targets
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - optpp_fd_newton
  - linearEquality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint: $Ax = 0.0$

linearEquality_scale_types
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - optpp_fd_newton
  - linearEquality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

linear.equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling. An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- ‘none’ - no scaling
- ‘value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.equality.scales must be specified
- ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} - a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear.equality.scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_fd_newton
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Each entry in `linear_equality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the `scaling` page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M^j) \tilde{x} + x_O^j) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M^j) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- `optpp_fd_newton`
- `model_pointer`

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `block_pointer`

Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRING
6.2. METHOD

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
   tabular_graphics_data
   method_pointer = ’UQ’

method
   id_method = ’UQ’
   model_pointer = ’SURRE’
   sampling,
      samples = 10
      seed = 98765 rng rnum2
      response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
   sample_type lhs
   distribution cumulative

model
   id_model = ’SURRE’
   surrogate global,
      dace_method_pointer = ’DACE’
      polynomial quadratic

method
   id_method = ’DACE’
   model_pointer = ’DACE_M’
   sampling sample_type lhs
   samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
   id_model = ’DACE_M’
   single
   interface_pointer = ’I1’

variables
   uniform_uncertain = 2
   lower_bounds = 0. 0.
   upper_bounds = 1. 1.
   descriptors = ’x1’ ’x2’

interface
   id_interface = ’I1’
   system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
   analysis_driver = ’text_book’

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.32  **optpp_g_newton**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_g_newton**

Newton method based least-squares calibration

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **package_optpp**
- **local_optimization_methods**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>search_method</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select a search method for Newton-based optimizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>merit_function</td>
<td></td>
<td>Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>steplength_to_boundary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>centering_parameter</td>
<td></td>
<td>Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the “central path”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


### Description

The Gauss-Newton algorithm is available as `optpp_g.newton` and supports unconstrained, bound-constrained, and generally-constrained problems. When interfaced with the unconstrained, bound-constrained, and nonlinear interior point full-Newton optimizers from the OPT++ library, it provides a Gauss-Newton least squares capability which – on zero-residual test problems – can exhibit quadratic convergence rates near the solution. (Real problems almost never have zero residuals, i.e., perfect fits.)
See package _optpp_ for info related to all _optpp_ methods.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- _optpp_cg_
- _optpp_pds_
- _optpp_fd_newton_
- _optpp_newton_
- _optpp_g_newton_

**search_method**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- _optpp_g_newton_
- **search_method**

Select a search method for Newton-based optimizers

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>value_based_line_search</td>
<td>Use only function values for line search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gradient_based_line_search</td>
<td>Set the search method to use the gradient</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trust_region</td>
<td>Use trust region as the globalization strategy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tr_pds</td>
<td>Use direct search as the local search in a trust region method</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method.

Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**value_based_line_search**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_g_newton**
- **search_method**
- **value_based_line_search**

Use only function values for line search

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method.

Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**gradient_based_line_search**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
Set the search method to use the gradient.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**trust_region**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_g_newton**
- **search_method**
- **trust_region**

Use trust region as the globalization strategy.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `trust_region` optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using `initial_size`) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using `minimum_size`), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using `contraction_factor`) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using `expansion_factor`) used...
6.2. METHOD

when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using `contract_threshold`) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using `expand_threshold`). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command `contract_threshold` sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command `expand_threshold` determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

tr_pds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- search_method
- tr_pds

Use direct search as the local search in a trust region method

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

merit_function

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- merit_function

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints
### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>el_bakry</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>el_bakry</strong></td>
<td>El-Bakry merit function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>argaez_tapia</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>argaez_tapia</strong></td>
<td>The merit function by Tapia and Argaez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>van_shanno</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>van_shanno</strong></td>
<td>The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

A *merit function* is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.

**el_bakry**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- merit_function
- el_bakry

El-Bakry merit function

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The "el_bakry" merit function is the L2-norm of the first order optimality conditions for the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is n+1 function evaluations. For more information, see [[19] "El-Bakry et al., 1996"].

**argaez_tapia**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- merit_function
6.2. METHOD

- **argaez_tapia**

  The merit function by Tapia and Argaez

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The "argaez_tapia" merit function can be classified as a modified augmented Lagrangian function. The augmented Lagrangian is modified by adding to its penalty term a potential reduction function to handle the perturbed complementarity condition. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information, see [[81] "Tapia and Argaez’].

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

- **van_shanno**

  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **optpp_g_newton**
  - **merit_function**
  - **van_shanno**

  The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The "van_shanno" merit function can be classified as a penalty function for the logarithmic barrier formulation of the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information see [[83] "Vanderbei and Shanno, 1999’].

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

- **steplength_to_boundary**

  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **optpp_g_newton**
  - **steplength_to_boundary**

  Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description
The steplength_to_boundary specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move. A value of 1 means that the algorithm is allowed to take steps that may reach the boundary of the feasible region. If the user wishes to maintain strict feasibility of the design parameters this value should be less than 1. Default values are .8, .99995, and .95 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

centering_parameter

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- centering_parameter

Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path"

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description
The centering_parameter specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path". See [[89] "Wright"] for the definition of central path. The larger the value, the more closely the algorithm follows the central path, which results in small steps. A value of 0 indicates that the algorithm will take a pure Newton step. Default values are .2, .2, and .1 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

max_step

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- max_step

Max change in design point

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `max_step` control specifies the maximum step that can be taken when computing a change in the current design point (e.g., limiting the Newton step computed from current gradient and Hessian information). It is equivalent to a move limit or a maximum trust region size. The `gradient_tolerance` control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The `gradient_tolerance` control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

`gradient_tolerance`

- Keywords Area
- method
- `optpp_g_newton`
- `gradient_tolerance`

Stopping critiera based on L2 norm of gradient

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The `gradient_tolerance` control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The `gradient_tolerance` control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

`linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

- Keywords Area
- method
- `optpp_g_newton`
- `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
Description

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +bigRealBoundSize (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than -bigRealBoundSize are treated as -infinity.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since -DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize).
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \(+\text{bigRealBoundSize} \ (1.0e+30, \text{as defined in Minimizer})\) are treated as \(+\text{infinity}\) and any lower bound values less than \(-\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) are treated as \(-\text{infinity}\).

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}\)).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.
An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_ix \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i(diag(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i diag(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality_scale_type:

- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality_scales
- 'none' - ignored
- 'value' - required
- 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are appended to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  * linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear_equaliity_targets
  * Keywords Area
  * method
  * optpp_g_newton
  * linear_equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  * linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$
6.2. METHOD

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear_equality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.
An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$. 

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
linear_equality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- linear_equality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none  
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_g_newton
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.
See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'
variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.33 optpp_newton

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton

Newton method based optimization

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_optpp
- local_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>constraints</td>
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</table>
### 6.2. METHOD

| Optional | `steplength_to_boundary` | Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move |
| Optional | `centering_parameter` | Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the “central path” |
| Optional | `max_step` | Max change in design point |
| Optional | `gradient_tolerance` | Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient |
| Optional | `linear_inequality_constraint_matrix` | Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints |
| Optional | `linear_inequality_lower_bounds` | Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
| Optional | `linear_inequality_upper_bounds` | Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
| Optional | `linear_inequality_scale_types` | Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | `linear_inequality_scales` | Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities |
| Optional | `linear_equation_constraint_matrix` | Define coefficients of the linear equalities |
| Optional | `linear_equation_targets` | Define target values for the linear equality constraints |
### Description

This is a full Newton method that expects a gradient and a Hessian. Each of the Newton-based methods are automatically bound to the appropriate OPT++ algorithm based on the user constraint specification (unconstrained, bound-constrained, or generally-constrained). In the generally-constrained case, the Newton methods use a non-linear interior-point approach to manage the constraints.

See package optpp for info related to all optpp methods.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- optpp.cg
- optpp.g_newton
- optpp.pds
- optpp.fd_newton
- optpp.g_newton

### search_method

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.newton
- search_method

Select a search method for Newton-based optimizers

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
### Description

The `search_method` control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between `trust_region`, `gradient_based_line_search`, and `value_based_line_search` methods. The `gradient_based_line_search` option uses the line search method proposed by [62] "More and Thuente, 1994". This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, `value_based_line_search` only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the `gradient_based_line_search` method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the `value_based_line_search` method is preferred to the `gradient_based_line_search` method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the `tr_pds` selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a `trust_region` search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

### value_based_line_search

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- `optpp_newton`
- search_method
- `value_based_line_search`

Use only function values for line search

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
Description

The search_method control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between trust_region, gradient_based_line_search, and value_based_line_search methods. The gradient_based_line_search option uses the line search method proposed by [[62] "More and Thuente, 1994"]. This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, value_base_line_search only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the gradient_based_line_search method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the value_based_line_search method is preferred to the gradient_based_line_search method.

Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the tr_pds selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a trust_region search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

gradient_based_line_search

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- search_method
- gradient_based_line_search

Set the search method to use the gradient

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The search_method control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between trust_region, gradient_based_line_search, and value_based_line_search methods. The gradient_based_line_search option uses the line search method proposed by [[62] "More and Thuente, 1994"]. This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, value_base_line_search only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the gradient_based_line_search method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the value_based_line_search method is preferred to the gradient_based_line_search method.

Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the tr_pds selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a trust_region search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

trust_region

- Keywords Area
- method
6.2. METHOD

- optpp_newton
- search_method
- trust_region

Use trust region as the globalization strategy.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The trust_region optional group specification can be used to specify the initial size of the trust region (using initial_size) relative to the total variable bounds, the minimum size of the trust region (using minimum_size), the contraction factor for the trust region size (using contraction_factor) used when the surrogate model is performing poorly, and the expansion factor for the trust region size (using expansion_factor) used when the surrogate model is performing well. Two additional commands are the trust region size contraction threshold (using contract_threshold) and the trust region size expansion threshold (using expand_threshold). These two commands are related to what is called the trust region ratio, which is the actual decrease in the truth model divided by the predicted decrease in the truth model in the current trust region. The command contract_threshold sets the minimum acceptable value for the trust region ratio, i.e., values below this threshold cause the trust region to shrink for the next SBL iteration. The command expand_threshold determines the trust region value above which the trust region will expand for the next SBL iteration.

tr_pds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- search_method
- tr_pds

Use direct search as the local search in a trust region method

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The search_method control is defined for all Newton-based optimizers and is used to select between trust_region, gradient_based_line_search, and value_based_line_search methods. The gradient_based_line_search option uses the line search method proposed by [62] “More and Thuente, 1994”. This option satisfies sufficient decrease and curvature conditions; whereas, value_base_line_search only satisfies the sufficient decrease condition. At each line search iteration, the gradient_based_line_search
method computes the function and gradient at the trial point. Consequently, given expensive function evaluations, the value_based_line_search method is preferred to the gradient_based_line_search method. Each of these Newton methods additionally supports the tr_pds selection for unconstrained problems. This option performs a robust trust region search using pattern search techniques. Use of a line search is the default for bound-constrained and generally-constrained problems, and use of a trust_region search method is the default for unconstrained problems.

**merit_function**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- merit_function

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

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<th>Description of Group</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>El-Bakry merit function</td>
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<td></td>
<td>argaez_tapia</td>
<td>The merit function by Tapia and Argaez</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>van_shanno</td>
<td>The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

A merit_function is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.

**el_bakry**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- merit_function
- el_bakry

El-Bakry merit function
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The "el_bakry" merit function is the L2-norm of the first order optimality conditions for the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is n+1 function evaluations. For more information, see \cite{19} "El-Bakry et al., 1996".

argaez_tapia

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- merit_function
- argaez_tapia

The merit function by Tapia and Argaez

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The "argaez_tapia" merit function can be classified as a modified augmented Lagrangian function. The augmented Lagrangian is modified by adding to its penalty term a potential reduction function to handle the perturbed complementarity condition. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information, see \cite[81]{81} "Tapia and Argaez".

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit_function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

van_shanno

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- merit_function
- van_shanno

The merit function by Vanderbei and Shanno
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The "van_shanno" merit function can be classified as a penalty function for the logarithmic barrier formulation of the nonlinear programming problem. The cost per linesearch iteration is one function evaluation. For more information see [83] "Vanderbei and Shanno, 1999".

If the function evaluation is expensive or noisy, set the merit_function to "argaez_tapia" or "van_shanno".

steplength_to_boundary

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- steplength_to_boundary

Controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The steplength_to_boundary specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how close to the boundary of the feasible region the algorithm is allowed to move. A value of 1 means that the algorithm is allowed to take steps that may reach the boundary of the feasible region. If the user wishes to maintain strict feasibility of the design parameters this value should be less than 1. Default values are .8, .99995, and .95 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

centering_parameter

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- centering_parameter

Controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path"

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
6.2. METHOD

Description

The centering parameter specification is a parameter (between 0 and 1) that controls how closely the algorithm should follow the "central path". See [[89] "Wright"] for the definition of central path. The larger the value, the more closely the algorithm follows the central path, which results in small steps. A value of 0 indicates that the algorithm will take a pure Newton step. Default values are .2, .2, and .1 for the el_bakry, argaez_tapia, and van_shanno merit functions, respectively.

max_step

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- max_step

Max change in design point

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The max_step control specifies the maximum step that can be taken when computing a change in the current design point (e.g., limiting the Newton step computed from current gradient and Hessian information). It is equivalent to a move limit or a maximum trust region size. The gradient_tolerance control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The gradient_tolerance control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

gradient_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- gradient_tolerance

Stopping criteria based on L2 norm of gradient

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL
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Description
The gradient_tolerance control defines the threshold value on the L2 norm of the objective function gradient that indicates convergence to an unconstrained minimum (no active constraints). The gradient_tolerance control is defined for all gradient-based optimizers.

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix
- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -$\infty$, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds
- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $\text{+bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.
As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see \texttt{objective_functions}), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).
In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than +\texttt{bigRealBoundSize} (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +\text{infinity} and any lower bound values less than -\texttt{bigRealBoundSize} are treated as -\text{infinity}.
This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\texttt{DBL\_MAX} < -\texttt{bigRealBoundSize}\)).

\texttt{linear\_inequality\_scale\_types}

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp\_newton**
- **linear\_inequality\_scale\_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear\_constraints**

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** \texttt{STRINGLIST}

**Description**

\texttt{linear\_inequality\_scale\_types} provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- **'none'** - no scaling
- **'value'** - characteristic value if this is chosen, then \texttt{linear\_inequality\_scales} must be specified
- **'auto'** - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

### linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

### Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

### Description

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
- `'none'` - ignored
- `'value'` - required
- `'auto'` - optional
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

linear_equation_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_equation_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$
6.2. METHOD

linear_equality_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the equality case, the targets \( a_t \) provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

\[
Ax = a_t
\]

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint: \( Ax = 0.0 \)

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
Description

`linear.equality_scale_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear.equality.scales` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]
\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

`linear.equality.scales`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp.newton**
- **linear.equality.scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** `REALLIST`
6.2. METHOD

Description

Each entry in `linear_equality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_newton
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model-pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```

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6.2. METHOD

response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.34 optpp_pds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_pds

Simplex-based derivative free optimization method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_optpp

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>search_scheme_</td>
<td>Number of points to be used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- size</td>
<td>in the direct search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- constraint_matrix</td>
<td>inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>- lower_bounds</td>
<td>linear inequality constraint</td>
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<td>Define upper bounds for the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- upper_bounds</td>
<td>linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_inequality_</td>
<td>Specify how each linear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- scale_types</td>
<td>inequality constraint is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>scaled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

The direct search algorithm, PDS (parallel direct search method), supports bound constraints.

The PDS method can directly exploit asynchronous evaluations; however, this capability has not yet been implemented in Dakota.

See [package optpp](#) for info related to all optpp methods.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- optpp.cg
- optpp.g_newton
- optpp_fd_newton
- optpp.newton
- optpp.g_newton

### search_scheme_size

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.pds
- search_scheme_size

Number of points to be used in the direct search template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>linear_inequality_scales</th>
<th>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equality_scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The search scheme size is defined for the PDS method to specify the number of points to be used in the direct search template.

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.pds
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp.pds
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\text{infinity}$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\text{infinity}$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

• Keywords Area
• method
• optpp_pds
• linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.0e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_pds**
- **linear_inequality_scale_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear_inequality_scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **optpp_pds**
- **linear_inequality_scales**

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- **scale_type** - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `'none'` - ignored
  - `'value'` - required
  - `'auto'` - optional
If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

\[ \tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{jO}}{x_{jM}} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} - A_i x_O) \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

**linear_equality_constraint_matrix**

- **Keywords** Area
- method
- optpp.pds
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

\[ A x = a_t \]
linear_equality_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_pds
- linear_equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_pds
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

linear_equalit_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_equalit_scale_types must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_ix \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq \hat{A}_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - \hat{A}_ix_O \leq \hat{A}_i(\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - \hat{A}_ix_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{\hat{A}}_i\tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equalit_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp_pds
- linear_equalit_scale_types

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities.

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Each entry in linear\_equality\_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

\[ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_ix \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L \leq A_i(diag(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L - A_ix_O \leq A_i(diag(x_M)\tilde{x}) \leq a_U - A_ix_O \]

\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i\tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

model\_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- optpp\_pds
- model\_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block\_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
6.2. METHOD

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'Surr'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'Surr'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
6.2.35 asynch_pattern_search

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search

Pattern search, derivative free optimization method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_hopspack
- global_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: coliny_apps
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initial_delta</td>
<td></td>
<td>Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>contraction_factor</td>
<td></td>
<td>Amount by which step length is rescaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>threshold_delta</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on objective function value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>synchronization</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select how Dakota schedules function evaluations in a pattern search</td>
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### 6.2. METHOD

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<th>Optional</th>
<th>merit_function</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>constraint_penalty</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>constraint_penalty</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>smoothing_factor</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-targets</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Optional**
- **merit_function**: Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints
- **constraint_penalty**: Multiplier for the penalty function
- **smoothing_factor**: Smoothing value for smoothed penalty functions
- **linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
- **linear_inequality_-lower_bounds**: Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- **linear_inequality_-upper_bounds**: Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
- **linear_inequality_-scale_types**: Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled
- **linear_inequality_-scales**: Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities
- **linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix**: Define coefficients of the linear equalities
- **linear_inequality_-targets**: Define target values for the linear equality constraints
- **linear_inequality_-scale_types**: Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled
- **linear_inequality_-scales**: Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities
Optional model pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Description
The asynchronous parallel pattern search (APPS) algorithm [[37] "Gray and Kolda, 2006"] is a fully asynchronous pattern search technique in that the search along each offset direction continues without waiting for searches along other directions to finish.

Currently, APPS only supports coordinate bases with a total of $2n$ function evaluations in the pattern, and these patterns may only contract.

Concurrency
APPS exploits parallelism through the use of Dakota’s concurrent function evaluations. The variant of the algorithm that is currently exposed, however, limits the amount of concurrency that can be exploited. In particular, APPS can leverage an evaluation concurrency level of at most twice the number of variables. More options that allow for greater evaluation concurrency may be exposed in future releases.

Algorithm Behavior

- initial_delta: the initial step length, must be positive
- threshold_delta: step length used to determine convergence, must be greater than or equal to 4.4e-16
- contraction_factor: amount by which step length is rescaled after unsuccessful iterates, must be strictly between 0 and 1

Merit Functions
APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions that can be specified with the merit_function control. The options are as follows:

- merit_max: based on $\ell_\infty$ norm
- merit_max_smooth: based on smoothed $\ell_\infty$ norm
- merit1: based on $\ell_1$ norm
- merit1_smooth: based on smoothed $\ell_1$ norm
- merit2: based on $\ell_2$ norm
- merit2_smooth: based on smoothed $\ell_2$ norm
- merit2_squared: based on $\ell_2^2$ norm

The user can also specify the following to affect the merit functions:

- constraint_penalty
- smoothing.parameter

Method Independent Controls
The only method independent controls that are currently mapped to APPS are:

- max_function_evaluations
6.2. METHOD

- constraint_tolerance
- output

Note that while APPS treats the constraint tolerance separately for linear and nonlinear constraints, we apply the same value to both if the user specifies `constraint_tolerance`.

The APPS internal display level is mapped to the Dakota `output` settings as follows:

- **debug**: display final solution, all input parameters, variable and constraint info, trial points, search directions, and execution details
- **verbose**: display final solution, all input parameters, variable and constraint info, and trial points
- **normal**: display final solution, all input parameters, variable and constraint summaries, and new best points
- **quiet**: display final solution and all input parameters
- **silent**: display final solution

**initial_delta**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **asynch_pattern_search**
- **initial_delta**

Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: REAL

**Description**

If `initial_delta` is supplied by the user, it will be applied in an absolute sense in all coordinate directions. APPS documentation advocates choosing `initial_delta` to be the approximate distance from the initial point to the solution. If this is unknown, it is advisable to err on the side of choosing an `initial_delta` that is too large or to not specify it. In the latter case, APPS will take a full step to the boundary in each direction. Relative application of `initial_delta` is not available unless the user scales the problem accordingly.

**contraction_factor**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **asynch_pattern_search**
- **contraction_factor**

Amount by which step length is rescaled
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

For pattern search methods, contraction_factor specifies the amount by which step length is rescaled after unsuccessful iterates, must be strictly between 0 and 1.

For methods that can expand the step length, the expansion is \(1/\text{contraction\_factor}\)

threshold_delta

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch\_pattern\_search
- threshold\_delta

Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

threshold\_delta is the step length or pattern size used to determine convergence.

solution_target

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch\_pattern\_search
- solution\_target

Stopping criteria based on objective function value

Specification

Alias: solution\_accuracy

Argument(s): REAL

Description

solution\_target is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below solution\_target.
6.2. METHOD

synchronization

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- synchronization

Select how Dakota schedules function evaluations in a pattern search

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>blocking</td>
<td>Evaluate all points in a pattern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>nonblocking</td>
<td>Evaluate points in the pattern until an improving point is found</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The synchronization specification can be used to specify the use of either blocking or nonblocking schedulers.

blocking

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- synchronization
- blocking

Evaluate all points in a pattern

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

In the blocking case, all points in the pattern are evaluated (in parallel), and if the best of these trial points is an improving point, then it becomes the next iterate. These runs are reproducible, assuming use of the same seed in the stochastic case.
nonblocking

• Keywords Area
• method
• asynch_pattern_search
• synchronization
• nonblocking

Evaluate points in the pattern until an improving point is found

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

In the nonblocking case, all points in the pattern may not be evaluated. The first improving point found becomes the next iterate. Since the algorithm steps will be subject to parallel timing variabilities, these runs will not generally be repeatable.

merit_function

• Keywords Area
• method
• asynch_pattern_search
• merit_function

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
### Description

A **merit function** is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.

**merit_max**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **asynch_pattern_search**
- **merit_function**
- **merit_max**

Nonsmoothed merit function

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

### Description

APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smooth exact penalty functions.

**merit_max**: based on $\ell_{\infty}$ norm

**merit_max_smooth**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
• asynch_pattern_search
• merit_function
• merit_max_smooth

Smoothed merit function

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

**Description**

APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions.

*merit_max_smooth*: based on smoothed $\ell_{\infty}$ norm

**merit1**

• Keywords Area
• method
• asynch_pattern_search
• merit_function
• merit1

Nonsmoothed merit function

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

**Description**

APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions.

• *merit1*: based on $\ell_1$ norm

**merit1_smooth**

• Keywords Area
• method
• asynch_pattern_search
• merit_function
• merit1_smooth

Smoothed merit function
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions.

- **merit1_smooth:** based on smoothed $\ell_1$ norm

**merit2**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **asynch_pattern_search**
- **merit_function**
- **merit2**

Nonsmoothed merit function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions.

- **merit2:** based on $\ell_2$ norm

**merit2_smooth**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **asynch_pattern_search**
- **merit_function**
- **merit2_smooth**

Smoothed merit function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions.

\texttt{merit2\_smooth}: based on smoothed $\ell_2$ norm

\texttt{merit2\_squared}
- Keywords Area
- method
- \texttt{asynch\_pattern\_search}
- \texttt{merit\_function}
- \texttt{merit2\_squared}

Nonsmoothed merit function

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
APPS solves nonlinearly constrained problems by solving a sequence of linearly constrained merit function-base subproblems. There are several exact and smoothed exact penalty functions.

\texttt{merit2\_squared}: based on $\ell_2^2$ norm

\texttt{constraint\_penalty}
- Keywords Area
- method
- \texttt{asynch\_pattern\_search}
- \texttt{constraint\_penalty}

Multiplier for the penalty function

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description
Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds \texttt{constraint\_penalty} times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. The default value of \texttt{constraint\_penalty} is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.
6.2. METHOD

**smoothing_factor**

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- smoothing_factor

Smoothing value for smoothed penalty functions

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

- **smoothing_parameter**: initial smoothing value for smoothed penalty functions, must be between 0 and 1 (inclusive)

**linear_inequality_constraint_matrix**

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by `linear_inequality_lower_bounds`, and `linear_inequality_upper_bounds`. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective_functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL}_\text{MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST
Description

linear_inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear_inequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_M}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints:

\[
\begin{align*}
  a_L & \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
  \tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \\
  a_L - A_i x_O & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description
Each entry in linear_inequality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of linear_inequality.scale_type:
- scale_type - behavior of linear_inequality.scales
  - 'none' - ignored
  - 'value' - required
  - 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equality_constraint_matrix
- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_equality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
Description

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear_equalyt targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_equalyt_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint: $Ax = 0.0$

linear_equalyt_scale_ypes

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear_equalyt_scale_ypes

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear.equality.scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.equality.scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables x:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints:

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x}) \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear.equality.scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in linear_equality_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.
For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- asynch_pattern_search
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SURRE'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SURRE'
    surrogate global,
        dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
        polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
    sampling sample_type lhs
        samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
        lower_bounds = 0. 0.
        upper_bounds = 1. 1.
        descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'
```

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
```
interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

### 6.2.36 meshadaptive_search

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **meshadaptive_search**

Mesh Adaptive Direct Search Algorithm

#### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>function_precision</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>history_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>This is the name of a file where NOMAD will write its own output.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>display_format</td>
<td></td>
<td>Define output format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>variable_-neighborhood_-search</td>
<td></td>
<td>Set parameter to escape local minima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>display_all_-evaluations</td>
<td></td>
<td>Show all evaluations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| Optional | linear_inequality_constraint_matrix | Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints |
| Optional | linear_inequality_lower_bounds | Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
| Optional | linear_inequality_upper_bounds | Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint |
| Optional | linear_inequality_scale_types | Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | linear_inequality_scales | Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities |
| Optional | linear_equation_constraint_matrix | Define coefficients of the linear equalities |
| Optional | linear_equation_targets | Define target values for the linear equality constraints |
| Optional | linear_equation_scale_types | Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | linear_equation_scales | Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities |
| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

Description

The mesh adaptive direct search algorithm [8] "Audet, Le Digabel, and Tribes, 2009" is a generalized pattern search in which the set of points evaluated becomes increasingly dense, leading to good convergence properties. It is now made available in Dakota through the NOMAD software [2] "Abramson, Audet, Couture, Dennis, Le Digabel, and Tribes". It can handle unconstrained problems as well as those with bound constraints and general nonlinear constraints. Of particular note, it can handle both continuous and discrete parameters. NOMAD is available to the public under the GNU LGPL and the source code is included with Dakota. NOMAD-specific software documentation is available from http://www.gerad.ca/nomad.
function_precision
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • mesh_adaptive_search
  • function_precision

Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s)*: REAL

**Description**

The `function_precision` control provides the algorithm with an estimate of the accuracy to which the problem functions can be computed. This is used to prevent the algorithm from trying to distinguish between function values that differ by less than the inherent error in the calculation.

seed
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • mesh_adaptive_search
  • seed

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s)*: INTEGER

**Description**

The random `seed` control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

  **Default Behavior**
  
  If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

  **Expected Output**
  
  If `seed` is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

  **Usage Tips**
  
  If a stochastic study was run without `seed` specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**history_file**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **mesh_adaptive_search**
- **history_file**

This is the name of a file where NOMAD will write its own output.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

**history_file:** This is the name of a file where NOMAD will write its own output.

**display_format**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **mesh_adaptive_search**
- **display_format**

Define output format.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

Define output format.
variable_neighborhood_search

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- variable_neighborhood_search

Set parameter to escape local minima

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

*vns*: This parameter guides a variable neighborhood. It roughly corresponds to how aggressive NOMAD is in trying to move away from local minima.

display_all_evaluations

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- display_all_evaluations

Show all evaluations

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

display_all_evaluations: If this is set, then NOMAD will print out its own record of evaluations completed.

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
    Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
    Argument(s): REALLIST
**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$. This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBLMAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_upper_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u \]

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see `objective_functions`), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ Ax \leq 0.0 \]
result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- **Keywords** Area, method, mesh_adaptive_search, linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

`linear_inequality_scale_types` provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then `linear_inequality_scales` must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]

\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**linear_inequality_scales**

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- **scale_type** - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - 'none' - ignored
  - 'value' - required
  - 'auto' - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \(x\):

\[ \tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{jO}}{x_{jM}} \]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]
\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]
\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear.equality.constraint_matrix**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **mesh.adaptive_search**
- **linear.equality.constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear.constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix \( A \) provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

\[ Ax = a_t \]

**linear.equality.targets**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **mesh.adaptive_search**
- **linear.equality.targets**

Define target values for the linear equality constraints
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint: $Ax = 0$

linear Equality scale types

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- linear Equality scale types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
linear Equality scale types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear Equality scales must be specified
6.2. METHOD

- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
\begin{align*}
a_L & \leq A_i x \leq a_U \\
a_L & \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \\
a_L - A_i x_O & \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \\
\tilde{a}_L & \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\end{align*}
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

linear_equalities_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- mesh_adaptive_search
- linear_equalities_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Each entry in linear_equalities_scales may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}
\]
we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U \]

\[ a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O \]

\[ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U \]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **mesh_adaptive_search**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model-pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURRE'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURRE'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians
```

6.2.37 moga

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga

Multi-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a Evolutionary Algorithm)
### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **package_jega**

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>fitness_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select the fitness type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>replacement_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select a replacement type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>niching_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the type of niching pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>convergence_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select the convergence type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>postprocessor_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Post process the final solution from moga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>population_size</td>
<td></td>
<td>Set the initial population size in JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>log_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the name of a log file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>print_each_pop</td>
<td></td>
<td>Print every population to a population file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>initialization_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify how to initialize the population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>crossover_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select a crossover type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select a mutation type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

*moga* stands for Multi-objective Genetic Algorithm, which is a global optimization method that does Pareto optimization for multiple objectives. It supports general constraints and a mixture of real and discrete variables.

**Constraints**

*moga* can utilize linear constraints using the keywords:  ```linear_inequality_constraint_matrix```, ```linear_inequality_lower_bounds```, ```linear_inequality_upper_bounds```, ```linear_inequality_scale_types```, ```linear_inequality_scales```, ```linear_inequality_constraint_matrix```, ```linear_inequality_targets```, ```linear_inequality_scale_types```, ```linear_inequality_scales```

---

#### Optional

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<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled</td>
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<tr>
<td>linear_inequality_scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Configuration**
The genetic algorithm configurations are:

1. fitness
2. replacement
3. niching
4. convergence
5. postprocessor
6. initialization
7. crossover
8. mutation
9. population size

The steps followed by the algorithm are listed below. The configurations will effect how the algorithm completes each step.

**Stopping Criteria**
The *moga* method respects the `max_iterations` and `max_function_evaluations` method independent controls to provide integer limits for the maximum number of generations and function evaluations, respectively.

The algorithm also stops when convergence is reached. This involves repeated assessment of the algorithm’s progress in solving the problem, until some criterion is met.

The specification for convergence in a *moga* can either be `metric_tracker` or can be omitted all together. If omitted, no convergence algorithm will be used and the algorithm will rely on stopping criteria only.

**Outputs**
The *moga* method respects the `output` method independent control to vary the amount of information presented to the user during execution.

The final results are written to the Dakota tabular output. Additional information is also available - see the `log_file` and `print_each_pop` keywords.

Note that *moga* and *SOGA* create additional output files during execution. "finaldata.dat" is a file that holds the final set of Pareto optimal solutions after any post-processing is complete. "discards.dat" holds solutions that were discarded from the population during the course of evolution.

It can often be useful to plot objective function values from these files to visually see the Pareto front and ensure that finaldata.dat solutions dominate discards.dat solutions. The solutions are written to these output files in the format "Input1...InputN..Output1...OutputM".

**Important Notes**
The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring.

Choice of fitness assessors is strongly related to the type of replacement algorithm being used and can have a profound effect on the solutions selected for the next generation.

If using the fitness types `layer_rank` or `domination_count`, it is strongly recommended that you use the `replacement_type below_limit` (although the roulette wheel selectors can also be used).

The functionality of the `domination_count` selector of JEGA v1.0 can now be achieved using the `domination_count fitness type and below_limit replacement type`. 
6.2. **METHOD**

**Theory**

The basic steps of the moga algorithm are as follows:

1. Initialize the population
2. Evaluate the population (calculate the values of the objective function and constraints for each population member)
3. Loop until converged, or stopping criteria reached
   - (a) Perform crossover
   - (b) Perform mutation
   - (c) Evaluate the new population
   - (d) Assess the fitness of each member in the population
   - (e) Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation
   - (f) Apply niche pressure to the population
   - (g) Test for convergence
4. Perform post processing

If moga is used in a hybrid optimization method (which requires one optimal solution from each individual optimization method to be passed to the subsequent optimization method as its starting point), the solution in the Pareto set closest to the “utopia” point is given as the best solution. This solution is also reported in the Dakota output.

This “best” solution in the Pareto set has minimum distance from the utopia point. The utopia point is defined as the point of extreme (best) values for each objective function. For example, if the Pareto front is bounded by (1,100) and (90,2), then (1,2) is the utopia point. There will be a point in the Pareto set that has minimum L2-norm distance to this point, for example (10,10) may be such a point.

If moga is used in a method which may require passing multiple solutions to the next level (such as the surrogate_based_global method or hybrid methods), the orthogonal_distance postprocessor type may be used to specify the distances between each solution value to winnow down the solutions in the full Pareto front to a subset which will be passed to the next iteration.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- soga

**fitness_type**

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- fitness_type

Select the fitness type for JEGA methods
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
6.2. **METHOD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>layer_rank</td>
<td>Assign each member to a layer, based on domination the rank based on layers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>domination_count</td>
<td>Rank each member by the number of members that dominate it</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The two JEGA methods use different fitness types, which are described on their respective pages.

**layer_rank**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **moga**
- **fitness_type**
- **layer_rank**

Assign each member to a layer, based on domination the rank based on layers

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The **fitness_type: layer_rank** has been specifically designed to avoid problems with aggregating and scaling objective function values and transforming them into a single objective.

The **layer_rank** fitness assessor works by assigning all non-dominated designs a layer of 0, then from what remains, assigning all the non-dominated a layer of 1, and so on until all designs have been assigned a layer. The values are negated to follow the higher-is-better fitness convention.

Use of the **below_limit** selector with the **layer_rank** fitness assessor has the effect of keeping all those designs whose layer is below a certain threshold again subject to the shrinkage limit.

**domination_count**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **moga**
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- **fitness**
- **domination_count**

Rank each member by the number of members that dominate it

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `fitness_type: domination_count` has been specifically designed to avoid problems with aggregating and scaling objective function values and transforming them into a single objective.

Instead, the `domination_count` fitness assessor works by ordering population members by the negative of the number of designs that dominate them. The values are negated in keeping with the convention that higher fitness is better.

The `layer_rank` fitness assessor works by assigning all non-dominated designs a layer of 0, then from what remains, assigning all the non-dominated a layer of 1, and so on until all designs have been assigned a layer. Again, the values are negated for the higher-is-better fitness convention.

Use of the `below_limit` selector with the `domination_count` fitness assessor has the effect of keeping all designs that are dominated by fewer then a limiting number of other designs subject to the shrinkage limit.

Using it with the `layer_rank` fitness assessor has the effect of keeping all those designs whose layer is below a certain threshold again subject to the shrinkage limit.

**replacement_type**

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- replacement_type

Select a replacement type for JEGA methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong> <em>(Choose One)</em></td>
<td><strong>Group 1</strong></td>
<td>elitist</td>
<td>Use the best designs to form a new population</td>
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6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>roulette_wheel</th>
<th>Replace population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>unique_roulette_wheel</td>
<td>Replace population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>below_limit</td>
<td>Limit number of designs dominating those kept</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation. The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. The replacement type of roulette_wheel or unique_roulette_wheel may be used either with MOGA or SOGA problems however they are not recommended for use with MOGA. Given that the only two fitness assessors for MOGA are the layer_rank and domination_count, the recommended selector is the below_limit selector. The below_limit replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs.

In roulette_wheel replacement, each design is conceptually allotted a portion of a wheel proportional to its fitness relative to the fitnesses of the other Designs. Then, portions of the wheel are chosen at random and the designs occupying those portions are duplicated into the next population. Those Designs allotted larger portions of the wheel are more likely to be selected (potentially many times). unique_roulette_wheel replacement is the same as roulette_wheel replacement, with the exception that a design may only be selected once. The below_limit selector attempts to keep all designs for which the negated fitness is below a certain limit. The values are negated to keep with the convention that higher fitness is better. The inputs to the below_limit selector are the limit as a real value, and a shrinkage_percentage as a real value. The shrinkage_percentage defines the minimum amount of selections that will take place if enough designs are available. It is interpreted as a percentage of the population size that must go on to the subsequent generation. To enforce this, below_limit makes all the selections it would make anyway and if that is not enough, it takes the remaining that it needs from the best of what is left (effectively raising its limit as far as it must to get the minimum number of selections). It continues until it has made enough selections. The shrinkage_percentage is designed to prevent extreme decreases in the population size at any given generation, and thus prevent a big loss of genetic diversity in a very short time. Without a shrinkage limit, a small group of ”super” designs may appear and quickly cull the population down to a size on the order of the limiting value. In this case, all the diversity of the population is lost and it is expensive to re-diversify and spread the population. The

The replacement_type for a SOGA may be roulette_wheel, unique_roulette_wheel, elitist, or favor_feasible. The elitist selector simply chooses the required number of designs taking the most fit. For example, if 100 selections are requested, then the top 100 designs as ranked by fitness will be selected and the remaining will be discarded. The favor_feasible replacement type first considers feasibility as a selection criteria. If that does not produce a ”winner” then it moves on to considering fitness value. Because of this, any fitness assessor used with the favor_feasible selector must only account objectives in the creation of fitness. Therefore, there is such a fitness assessor and it’s use is enforced when the favor_feasible selector is chosen. In that case, and if the output level is set high enough, a message will be presented indicating that the weighted_sum_only fitness assessor will be used.

**elitist**

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- replacement_type

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
• **elitist**

Use the best designs to form a new population

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The *elitist* (default) setting creates a new population using (a) the `replacement_size` best individuals from the current population, (b) and `population_size-replacement_size` individuals randomly selected from the newly generated individuals. It is possible in this case to lose a good solution from the newly generated individuals if it is not randomly selected for replacement; however, the default `new_solutions_generated` value is set such that the entire set of newly generated individuals will be selected for replacement.

---

**roulette_wheel**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **moga**
- **replacement_type**
- **roulette_wheel**

Replace population

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation. The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. The `replacement_type` of `roulette_wheel` or `unique_roulette_wheel` may be used either with MOGA or SOGA problems however they are not recommended for use with MOGA. Given that the only two fitness assessors for MOGA are the `layer_rank` and `domination_count`, the recommended selector is the `below_limit` selector. The `below_limit` replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs. The `replacement_type` of `favor_feasible` is specific to a SOGA. This replacement operator will always prefer a more feasible design to a less feasible one. Beyond that, it favors solutions based on an assigned fitness value which must have been installed by the weighted sum only fitness assessor (see the discussion below).
6.2. METHOD

unique_roulette_wheel

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- replacement_type
- unique_roulette_wheel

Replace population

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation. The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. The replacement_type of roulette_wheel or unique_roulette_wheel may be used either with MOGA or SOGA problems however they are not recommended for use with MOGA. Given that the only two fitness assessors for MOGA are the layer_rank and domination_count, the recommended selector is the below_limit selector. The below_limit replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs. The replacement_type of favor_feasible is specific to a SOGA. This replacement operator will always prefer a more feasible design to a less feasible one. Beyond that, it favors solutions based on an assigned fitness value which must have been installed by the weighted sum only fitness assessor (see the discussion below).

below_limit

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- replacement_type
- below_limit

Limit number of designs dominating those kept

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Description**

The `below_limit` replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs.

**shrinkage_fraction**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **moga**
- **replacement_type**
- **below_limit**
- **shrinkage_fraction**

Decrease the population size by a percentage

**Specification**

**Alias:** shrinkage_percentage  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

As of JEGA v2.0, all replacement types are common to both MOGA and SOGA. They include the `roulette_wheel`, `unique_roulette_wheel`, `elitist`, and `below_limit` selectors. In `roulette_wheel` replacement, each design is conceptually allotted a portion of a wheel proportional to its fitness relative to the fitnesses of the other Designs. Then, portions of the wheel are chosen at random and the design occupying those portions are duplicated into the next population. Those Designs allotted larger portions of the wheel are more likely to be selected (potentially many times). `unique_roulette_wheel` replacement is the same as `roulette_wheel` replacement, with the exception that a design may only be selected once. The `below_limit` selector attempts to keep all designs for which the negated fitness is below a certain limit. The values are negated to keep with the convention that higher fitness is better. The inputs to the `below_limit` selector are the limit as a real value, and a `shrinkage_percentage` as a real value. The `shrinkage_percentage` defines the minimum amount of selections that will take place if enough designs are available. It is interpreted as a percentage of the population size that must go on to the subsequent generation. To enforce this, `below_limit` makes all the selections it would make anyway and if that is not enough, it takes the remaining that it needs from the best of what is left (effectively raising its limit as far as it must to get the minimum number of selections). It continues until it has made enough selections. The `shrinkage_percentage` is designed to prevent extreme decreases in the population size at any given generation, and thus prevent a big loss of genetic diversity in a very short time. Without a shrinkage limit, a small group of “super” designs may appear and quickly cull the population down to a size on the order of the limiting value. In this case, all the diversity of the population is lost and it is expensive to re-diversify and spread the population. The `elitist` selector simply chooses the required number of designs taking the most fit. For example, if 100 selections are requested, then the top 100 designs as ranked by fitness will be selected and the remaining will be discarded.
6.2. METHOD

niching_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- niching_type

Specify the type of niching pressure

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<td>radial</td>
<td>Set niching distance to percentage of non-dominated range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>distance</td>
<td>Enforce minimum Euclidean distance between designs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>max_designs</td>
<td>Limit number of solutions to remain in the population</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The purpose of niching is to encourage differentiation along the Pareto frontier and thus a more even and uniform sampling.

This is typically accomplished by discouraging clustering of design points in the performance space. In JE-GA, the application of niche pressure occurs as a secondary selection operation. The nicher is given a chance to perform a pre-selection operation prior to the operation of the selection (replacement) operator, and is then called to perform niching on the set of designs that were selected by the selection operator.

The radial nicher takes information input from the user to compute a minimum allowable distance between designs in the performance space and acts as a secondary selection operator whereby it enforces this minimum distance. The distance nicher requires that solutions must be separated from other solutions by a minimum distance in each dimension (vs. Euclidean distance for the radial niching). After niching is complete, all designs in the population will be at least the minimum distance from one another in all directions.

The radial niche pressure applicator works by enforcing a minimum Euclidean distance between designs in the performance space at each generation. The algorithm proceeds by starting at the (or one of the) extreme designs along objective dimension 0 and marching through the population removing all designs that are too close to the current design. One exception to the rule is that the algorithm will never remove an extreme design which is defined as a design that is maximal or minimal in all but 1 objective dimension (for a classical 2 objective problem, the extreme designs are those at the tips of the non-dominated frontier). The distance nicher enforces a minimum distance in each dimension.
The designs that are removed by the nichers are not discarded. They are buffered and re-inserted into the population during the next pre-selection operation. This way, the selector is still the only operator that discards designs and the algorithm will not waste time "re-filling" gaps created by the nichers.

The radial nichers require as input a vector of fractions with length equal to the number of objectives. The elements of the vector are interpreted as percentages of the non-dominated range for each objective defining a minimum distance to all other designs. All values should be in the range (0, 1). The minimum allowable distance between any two designs in the performance space is the Euclidian (simple square-root-sum-of-squares calculation) distance defined by these percentages. The distance nichers have a similar input vector requirement, only the distance is the minimum distance in each dimension.

The max_designs niche pressure applicator is designed to choose a limited number of solutions to remain in the population. That number is specified by num_designs. It does so in order to balance the tendency for populations to grow very large and thus consuming too many computer resources. It operates by ranking designs according to their fitness standing and a computed count of how many other designs are too close to them. Too close is a function of the supplied niche_vector, which specifies the minimum distance between any two points in the performance space along each dimension individually. Once the designs are all ranked, the top c \cdot num_designs designs are kept in the population and the remaining ones are buffered or discarded. Note that like other niching operators, this one will not discard an extreme design.

**radial**
- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- niching_type
- radial

Set niching distance to percentage of non-dominated range

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The radial nichers require as input a vector of fractions with length equal to the number of objectives. The elements of the vector are interpreted as percentages of the non-dominated range for each objective defining a minimum distance to all other designs. All values should be in the range (0, 1). The minimum allowable distance between any two designs in the performance space is the Euclidian (simple square-root-sum-of-squares calculation) distance defined by these percentages. The distance nichers have a similar input vector requirement, only the distance is the minimum distance in each dimension.

**distance**
- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
6.2. METHOD

- niching_type
- distance

Enforce minimum Euclidean distance between designs

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Currently, the only niche pressure operators available are the radial nicher, the distance nicher, and the max_designs nicher. The radial niche pressure applicator works by enforcing a minimum Euclidean distance between designs in the performance space at each generation. The algorithm proceeds by starting at the (or one of the) extreme designs along objective dimension 0 and marching through the population removing all designs that are too close to the current design. One exception to the rule is that the algorithm will never remove an extreme design which is defined as a design that is maximal or minimal in all but 1 objective dimension (for a classical 2 objective problem, the extreme designs are those at the tips of the non-dominated frontier). The distance nicher enforces a minimum distance in each dimension.

The designs that are removed by the nicher are not discarded. They are buffered and re-inserted into the population during the next pre-selection operation. This way, the selector is still the only operator that discards designs and the algorithm will not waste time “re-filling” gaps created by the nicher.

max_designs

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- niching_type
- max_designs

Limit number of solutions to remain in the population

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>num_designs</td>
<td>num_designs</td>
<td>Limit the number of solutions</td>
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CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The max designs niche pressure applicator is designed to choose a limited number of solutions to remain in the population. That number is specified by num designs. It does so in order to balance the tendency for populations to grow very large and thus consuming too many computer resources. It operates by ranking designs according to their fitness standing and a computed count of how many other designs are too close to them. Too close is a function of the supplied niche vector, which specifies the minimum distance between any two points in the performance space along each dimension individually. Once the designs are all ranked, the top c \ num designs designs are kept in the population and the remaining ones are buffered or discarded. Note that like other niching operators, this one will not discard an extreme design.

num designs
• Keywords Area
• method
• moga
• niching type
• max designs
• num designs
Limit the number of solutions

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The max designs niche pressure applicator is designed to choose a limited number of solutions to remain in the population. That number is specified by num designs. It does so in order to balance the tendency for populations to grow very large and thus consuming too many computer resources. It operates by ranking designs according to their fitness standing and a computed count of how many other designs are too close to them. Too close is a function of the supplied niche vector, which specifies the minimum distance between any two points in the performance space along each dimension individually. Once the designs are all ranked, the top c \ num designs designs are kept in the population and the remaining ones are buffered or discarded. Note that like other niching operators, this one will not discard an extreme design.

convergence type
• Keywords Area
• method
• moga
• convergence type
Select the convergence type for JEGA methods
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
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<td>metric_tracker</td>
<td>Track changes in the non-dominated frontier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>percent_change</td>
<td>Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_generations</td>
<td>Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The two JEGA methods use different convergence types, which are described on their respective pages.

All the convergence types are modified by the optional keywords percent_change and num_generations.

metric_tracker

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- convergence_type
- metric_tracker

Track changes in the non-dominated frontier

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The moga converger (metric_tracker) operates by tracking various changes in the non-dominated frontier from generation to generation. When the changes occurring over a user specified number of generations fall below a user specified threshold, the algorithm stops.

If metric_tracker is specified, then a percent_change and num_generations must be supplied as well. These are listed as optional keywords in the input spec.
The metric_tracker converger tracks 3 metrics specific to the non-dominated frontier from generation to generation. All 3 of these metrics are computed as percent changes between the generations. In order to compute these metrics, the converger stores a duplicate of the non-dominated frontier at each generation for comparison to the non-dominated frontier of the next generation.

The first metric is one that indicates how the expanse of the frontier is changing. The expanse along a given objective is defined by the range of values existing within the non-dominated set. The expansion metric is computed by tracking the extremes of the non-dominated frontier from one generation to the next. Any movement of the extreme values is noticed and the maximum percentage movement is computed as:

\[
Em = \max_{j} \frac{\text{abs}(\text{range}(j, i) - \text{range}(j, i-1))}{\text{range}(j, i-1)}
\]

where \(Em\) is the max expansion metric, \(j\) is the objective function index, \(i\) is the current generation number, and \(nof\) is the total number of objectives. The range is the difference between the largest value along an objective and the smallest when considering only non-dominated designs.

The second metric monitors changes in the density of the non-dominated set. The density metric is computed as the number of non-dominated points divided by the hypervolume of the non-dominated region of space. Therefore, changes in the density can be caused by changes in the number of non-dominated points or by changes in size of the non-dominated space or both. The size of the non-dominated space is computed as:

\[
Vps(i) = \prod_{j} \text{range}(j, i)
\]

where \(Vps(i)\) is the hypervolume of the non-dominated space at generation \(i\) and all other terms have the same meanings as above.

The density of the a given non-dominated space is then:

\[
Dps(i) = \frac{\text{Pct}(i)}{Vps(i)}
\]

where \(\text{Pct}(i)\) is the number of points on the non-dominated frontier at generation \(i\).

The percentage increase in density of the frontier is then calculated as

\[
Cd = \frac{\text{abs}(Dps(i) - Dps(i-1))}{Dps(i-1)}
\]

where \(Cd\) is the change in density metric.

The final metric is one that monitors the "goodness" of the non-dominated frontier. This metric is computed by considering each design in the previous population and determining if it is dominated by any designs in the current population. All that are determined to be dominated are counted. The metric is the ratio of the number that are dominated to the total number that exist in the previous population.

As mentioned above, each of these metrics is a percentage. The tracker records the largest of these three at each generation. Once the recorded percentage is below the supplied percent change for the supplied number of generations consecutively, the algorithm is converged.

**percent_change**

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- convergence_type
- percent_change

Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods.
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

The percent_change is the threshold beneath which convergence is attained whereby it is compared to the metric value computed.

num_generations

- Keywords Area  
- method  
- moga  
- convergence_type  
- num_generations

Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods.

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): INTEGER

**Description**

The num_generations is the number of generations over which the metric value should be tracked. Convergence will be attained if the recorded metric is below percent_change for num_generations consecutive generations.

postprocessor_type

- Keywords Area  
- method  
- moga  
- postprocessor_type

Post process the final solution from moga

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none
### Description

The purpose of this operation is to perform any needed data manipulations on the final solution deemed necessary. Currently the `orthogonal_distance` is the only one. It reduces the final solution set size such that a minimum distance in each direction exists between any two designs.

**orthogonal_distance**

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- postprocessor.type
- orthogonal_distance

Get subset of Pareto front based on distance

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

### Description

Note that MOGA and SOGA create additional output files during execution. "finaldata.dat" is a file that holds the final set of Pareto optimal solutions after any post-processing is complete. "discards.dat" holds solutions that were discarded from the population during the course of evolution. It can often be useful to plot objective function values from these files to visually see the Pareto front and ensure that finaldata.dat solutions dominate discards.dat solutions. The solutions are written to these output files in the format "Input1...InputN..Output1...OutputM". If MOGA is used in a hybrid optimization meta-iteration (which requires one optimal solution from each individual optimization method to be passed to the subsequent optimization method as its starting point), the solution in the Pareto set closest to the "utopia" point is given as the best solution. This solution is also reported in the Dakota output. This "best" solution in the Pareto set has minimum distance from the utopia point. The utopia point is defined as the point of extreme (best) values for each objective function. For example, if the Pareto front is bounded by (1,100) and (90,2), then (1,2) is the utopia point. There will be a point in the Pareto set that has minimum L2-norm distance to this point, for example (10,10) may be such a point. In SOGA, the solution that minimizes the single objective function is returned as the best solution. If moga is used in meta-iteration which may require passing multiple solutions to the next level (such as the surrogate_based_global or hybrid methods), the `orthogonal_distance` postprocessor type may be used to specify the distances between each solution value to winnow down the solutions in the full Pareto front to a subset which will be passed to the next iteration.
6.2. METHOD

population_size
- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- population_size

Set the initial population size in JEGA methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The number of designs in the initial population is specified by the population_size. Note that the population_size only sets the size of the initial population. The population size may vary in the JEGA methods according to the type of operators chosen for a particular optimization run.

log_file
- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- log_file

Specify the name of a log file

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
New as of JEGA v2.0 is the introduction of the log_file specification. JEGA now uses a logging library to output messages and status to the user. JEGA can be configured at build time to log to both the console window and a text file, one or the other, or neither. The log_file input is a string name of a file into which to log. If the build was configured without file logging in JEGA, this input is ignored. If file logging is enabled and no log_file is specified, the default file name of JEGAGlobal.log is used.
print_each_pop

• Keywords Area
• method
• moga
• print_each_pop

Print every population to a population file

Specification

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

Description

New to JEGA v2.0 is the introduction of the `print_each_pop` specification. It serves as a flag and if supplied, the population at each generation will be printed to a file named "population<GEN#>.dat" where `<GEN#>` is the number of the current generation.

initialization_type

• Keywords Area
• method
• moga
• initialization_type

Specify how to initialize the population

Specification

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>simple_random</td>
<td>Create random initial solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>unique_random</td>
<td>Create random initial solutions, but enforce uniqueness (default)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| flat_file | Read initial solutions from file |

Description

The initialization.type defines how the initial population is created for the GA. There are three types:

1. simple_random
2. unique_random (default)
3. flat_file

Setting the size for the flat_file initializer has the effect of requiring a minimum number of designs to create. If this minimum number has not been created once the files are all read, the rest are created using the unique_random initializer and then the simple_random initializer if necessary.

simple_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- initialization_type
- simple_random

Create random initial solutions

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

simple_random creates initial solutions with random variable values according to a uniform random number distribution. It gives no consideration to any previously generated designs.

unique_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- initialization_type
- unique_random

Create random initial solutions, but enforce uniqueness (default)
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

unique_random is the same as simple_random, except that when a new solution is generated, it is checked against the rest of the solutions. If it duplicates any of them, it is rejected.

flat_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- initialization_type
- flat_file

Read initial solutions from file

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

flat_file allows the initial population to be read from a flat file. If flat_file is specified, a file name must be given.

Variables can be delimited in the flat file in any way you see fit with a few exceptions. The delimiter must be the same on any given line of input with the exception of leading and trailing whitespace. So a line could look like: 1.1, 2.2, 3.3 for example but could not look like: 1.1, 2.2 3.3. The delimiter can vary from line to line within the file which can be useful if data from multiple sources is pasted into the same input file. The delimiter can be any string that does not contain any of the characters .+-dDeE or any of the digits 0-9. The input will be read until the end of the file. The algorithm will discard any configurations for which it was unable to retrieve at least the number of design variables. The objective and constraint entries are not required but if ALL are present, they will be recorded and the design will be tagged as evaluated so that evaluators may choose not to re-evaluate them.

Setting the size for this initializer has the effect of requiring a minimum number of designs to create. If this minimum number has not been created once the files are all read, the rest are created using the unique_random initializer and then the simple_random initializer if necessary.

crossover_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- crossover_type

Select a crossover type for JEGA methods
6.2. METHOD

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong> (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>multi_point_binary</td>
<td>Use bit switching for crossover events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multi_point_parameterized_binary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use bit switching to crossover each design variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multi_point_real</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Perform crossover in real valued genome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shuffle_random</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Perform crossover by choosing design variable(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Optional | crossover_rate | Specify the probability of a crossover event |

**Description**

There are many crossover types available. **multi_point_binary** crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). **multi_point_parameterized_binary** crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. **multi_point_real** crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by $10^6$ and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.

The final crossover type is **shuffle_random**. This crossover type performs crossover by choosing design variables at random from a specified number of parents enough times that the requested number of children are produced. For example, consider the case of 3 parents producing 2 children. This operator would go through and for each design variable, select one of the parents as the donor for the child. So it creates a random shuffle of the parent design variable values. The relative numbers of children and parents are controllable to allow for as much mixing as desired. The more parents involved, the less likely that the children will wind up exact duplicates of the parents.

All crossover types take a **crossover_rate**. The crossover rate is used to calculate the number of crossover operations that take place. The number of crossovers is equal to the rate $\times$ population_size.
There are many crossover types available. \texttt{multi\_point\_binary} crossover requires an integer number, \(N\), of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at \(N\) crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). \texttt{multi\_point\_parameterized\_binary} crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at \(N\) crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at \(N\) locations. \texttt{multi\_point\_real} crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at \(N\) crossover points in the real real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by \(10^{6}\) and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.
6.2. METHOD

Description

There are many crossover types available. multi_point_binary crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). multi_point_parameterized_binary crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. multi_point_real crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by $10^6$ and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.

multi_point_real

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- crossover_type
- multi_point_real

Perform crossover in real valued genome

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

There are many crossover types available. multi_point_binary crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). multi_point_parameterized_binary crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. multi_point_real crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by $10^6$ and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.
shuffle_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- crossover_type
- shuffle_random

Perform crossover by choosing design variable(s)

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
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<td>num_parents</td>
<td>Number of parents in random shuffle crossover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_offspring</td>
<td>Number of offspring in random shuffle crossover</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Description**

The final crossover type is *shuffle_random*. This crossover type performs crossover by choosing design variables at random from a specified number of parents enough times that the requested number of children are produced. For example, consider the case of 3 parents producing 2 children. This operator would go through and for each design variable, select one of the parents as the donor for the child. So it creates a random shuffle of the parent design variable values. The relative numbers of children and parents are controllable to allow for as much mixing as desired. The more parents involved, the less likely that the children will wind up exact duplicates of the parents.

**num_parents**

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- crossover_type
- shuffle_random
- num_parents

Number of parents in random shuffle crossover
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

**Description**

Number of parents in random shuffle crossover

```
num_offspring
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- crossover_type
- shuffle_random
- num_offspring

Number of offspring in random shuffle crossover

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

**Description**

Number of offspring in random shuffle crossover

```
crossover_rate
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- crossover_type
- crossover_rate

Specify the probability of a crossover event

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `crossover_type` controls what approach is employed for combining parent genetic information to create offspring, and the `crossover_rate` specifies the probability of a crossover operation being performed to generate a new offspring. The SCOLIB EA method supports three forms of crossover, `two_point`, `blend`, and `uniform`, which generate a new individual through combinations of two parent individuals. Two-point crossover divides each parent into three regions, where offspring are created from the combination of the middle region from one parent and the end regions from the other parent. Since the SCOLIB EA does not utilize bit representations of variable values, the crossover points only occur on coordinate boundaries, never within the bits of a particular coordinate. Uniform crossover creates offspring through random combination of coordinates from the two parents. Blend crossover generates a new individual randomly along the multidimensional vector connecting the two parents.

mutation_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- mutation_type

Select a mutation type for JEGA methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>bit_random</td>
<td>replace_uniform</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use uniformly distributed value over range of parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>offset_normal</td>
<td>Set mutation offset to use a normal distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>offset_cauchy</td>
<td>Use a Cauchy distribution for the mutation offset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>offset_uniform</td>
<td>Set mutation offset to use a uniform distribution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Description

Five mutation types are available for selection by keyword: replace.uniform, bit.random, offset.-cauchy, offset.normal, and offset.uniform. They are described in greater detail on their respective keyword pages.

The offset.* mutators all act by adding a random "offset" to a variable value. The random amount has a mean of zero in all cases. The size of the offset is controlled using the mutation.scale keyword, which is interpreted differently for each offset.* type.

The rate of mutations for all types is controlled suing the mutation_rate. The rate is applied differently in each mutation_type.

bit_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- mutation_type
- bit_random

Mutate by flipping a random bit

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The bit_random mutator introduces random variation by first converting a randomly chosen variable of a randomly chosen design into a binary string. It then flips a randomly chosen bit in the string from a 1 to a 0 or visa versa. In this mutation scheme, the resulting value has more probability of being similar to the original value.

replace_uniform

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- mutation_type
- replace_uniform

Use uniformly distributed value over range of parameter
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

replace_uniform introduces random variation by first randomly choosing a design variable of a randomly selected design and reassigning it to a random valid value for that variable. No consideration of the current value is given when determining the new value.

offset_normal
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - moga
  - mutation_type
  - offset_normal

Set mutation offset to use a normal distribution

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
|Optional|mutation_scale|Scales mutation across range of parameter|

Description

The offset_normal mutator introduces random variation by adding a Gaussian random amount to a variable value. The random amount has a standard deviation dependent on the mutation_scale.

mutation_scale
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - moga
  - mutation_type
  - offset_normal
  - mutation_scale

Scales mutation across range of parameter
6.2. *METHOD*

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The mutation_scale is a fraction in the range [0, 1] and is meant to help control the amount of variation that takes place when a variable is mutated. Its behavior depends on the selected `mutation_type`. For `offset_normal` and `offset_cauchy`, `mutation_scale` is multiplied by the range of the variable being mutated to obtain the standard deviation of the offset. For `offset_uniform`, the range of possible deviation amounts is +/- 1/2 * (mutation_scale * variable range).

`offset_cauchy`

- **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - moga
  - `mutation_type`
  - `offset_cauchy`

Use a Cauchy distribution for the mutation offset

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td><code>mutation_scale</code></td>
<td>Scales mutation across range of parameter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `offset_cauchy` mutator introduces random variation by adding a Cauchy random amount to a variable value. The random amount has a standard deviation dependent on the `mutation_scale`.

- **`mutation_scale`**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - moga
  - `mutation_type`
  - `offset_cauchy`
  - `mutation_scale`

Scales mutation across range of parameter
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The mutation_scale is a fraction in the range [0, 1] and is meant to help control the amount of variation that takes place when a variable is mutated. Its behavior depends on the selected mutation_type. For offset_normal and offset_cauchy, mutation_scale is multiplied by the range of the variable being mutated to obtain the standard deviation of the offset. For offset_uniform, the range of possible deviation amounts is +/- 1/2 * (mutation_scale * variable range).

offset_uniform

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- mutation_type
- offset_uniform

Set mutation offset to use a uniform distribution

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          |                | Description |
| mutation_scale |               | mutation_scale | Scales mutation across range of parameter |

Description

The offset_uniform mutator introduces random variation by adding a uniform random amount to a variable value. The random amount depends on the mutation_scale.

mutation_scale

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- mutation_type
- offset_uniform
- mutation_scale

Scales mutation across range of parameter
Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REAL

Description
The mutation_scale is a fraction in the range [0, 1] and is meant to help control the amount of variation that takes place when a variable is mutated. Its behavior depends on the selected mutation_type. For offset_normal and offset_cauchy, mutation_scale is multiplied by the range of the variable being mutated to obtain the standard deviation of the offset. For offset_uniform, the range of possible deviation amounts is +/- 1/2 * (mutation_scale * variable range).

mutation_rate
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • moga
  • mutation_type
  • mutation_rate
  Set probability of a mutation

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REAL

Description
All mutation types have a mutation_rate, which controls the number of mutations performed. For replace_uniform and all the offset_* types, the number of mutations performed is the product of mutation_rate and population_size. For bit_random, it's the product of the mutation_rate, number of design variables, and population size

seed
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • moga
  • seed
  Seed of the random number generator

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - moga
  - linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$ a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u $$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$ Ax \leq 0.0 $$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0.0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\text{infinity}$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\text{infinity}$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

linear_inequality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linear_inequality_scale_types

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

linear.inequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling. An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- ’none’ - no scaling
- ’value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.inequality_scales must be specified
- ’auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]
\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]
\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]
\[
\bar{a}_L \leq \bar{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \bar{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

linear.inequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linear.inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.inequality_scales

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
Description

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `'none'` - ignored
  - `'value'` - required
  - `'auto'` - optional

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$ \tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_0}{x^j_M} $$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$ a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U $$

$$ a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_0) \leq a_U $$

$$ a_L - A_i x_0 \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_0 $$

$$ \tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U $$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

linear_equality_constraint_matrix

- `Keywords Area`
- `method`
- `moga`
- `linear_equality_constraint_matrix`

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `linear_constraints`

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description
In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$

linear_equal Targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linear_equal Targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets $a_t$ provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

$$Ax = a_t$$

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

$$Ax = 0.0$$

linear_equal_scale Types

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linear_equal_scale Types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

linearequality_scale_types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- 'none' - no scaling
- 'value' - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linearequality_scales must be specified
- 'auto' - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \): \[
\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x_O^j}{x_M^j}
\]

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i \tilde{x} \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

linearequality_scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- linearequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

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6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Each entry in `linear.equality.scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the `scaling` page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{Oj}}{x_{Mj}}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- moga
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

The **model_pointer** is used to specify which **model** block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a **model** block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding **id_model** with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a **model-pointer** for each method is imperative.

See **block_pointer** for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnun2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                   0.1 0.2 0.6
                   0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnun2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'
```
6.2. METHOD

interface
   id_interface = 'I1'
   system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
   analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
   response_functions = 3
   no_gradients
   no_hessians

6.2.38 soga

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga

Single-objective Genetic Algorithm (a.k.a Evolutionary Algorithm)

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_jega
- global_optimization_methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>fitness_type</td>
<td>Select the fitness type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>replacement_type</td>
<td>Select a replacement type for JEGA methods</td>
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<td>convergence_type</td>
<td>Select the convergence type for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>population_size</td>
<td>Set the initial population size in JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>log_file</td>
<td>Specify the name of a log file</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>print_each_pop</td>
<td>Print every population to a population file</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initialization_type</td>
<td>Specify how to initialize the population</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>crossover_type</td>
<td>Select a crossover type for JEGA methods</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>mutation_type</td>
<td>Select a mutation type for JEGA methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-lower_bounds</td>
<td>Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-upper_bounds</td>
<td>Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scale_types</td>
<td>Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_inequality_-scales</td>
<td>Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities</td>
<td></td>
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<td>linear_equation_-constraint_matrix</td>
<td>Define coefficients of the linear equalities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>linear_equation_-targets</td>
<td>Define target values for the linear equality constraints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| Optional | linear_equality_scale_types | Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled |
| Optional | linear_equality_scales | Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities |
| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

**Description**

`soga` stands for Single-objective Genetic Algorithm, which is a global optimization method that supports general constraints and a mixture of real and discrete variables. `soga` is part of the JEGA library.

- **Constraints** `soga` can utilize linear constraints.
- **Configuration**
  The genetic algorithm configurations are:

  1. fitness
  2. replacement
  3. convergence
  4. initialization
  5. crossover
  6. mutation
  7. population size

  The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. Choice of fitness assessors is strongly related to the type of replacement algorithm being used and can have a profound effect on the solutions selected for the next generation.

- **Stopping Criteria**

  The `soga` method respects the `max_iterations` and `max_function_evaluations` method independent controls to provide integer limits for the maximum number of generations and function evaluations, respectively.

  The algorithm also stops when convergence is reached. This involves repeated assessment of the algorithm’s progress in solving the problem, until some criterion is met.

- **Outputs** The `soga` method respects the `output` method independent control to vary the amount of information presented to the user during execution.

  The final results are written to the Dakota tabular output. Additional information is also available - see the `log_file` and `print_each_pop` keywords.

**Theory**

The basic steps of the `soga` algorithm are as follows:

  1. Initialize the population
2. Evaluate the population (calculate the values of the objective function and constraints for each population member)

3. Loop until converged, or stopping criteria reached
   (a) Perform crossover
   (b) Perform mutation
   (c) Evaluate the new population
   (d) Assess the fitness of each member in the population
   (e) Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation
   (f) Test for convergence

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- moga

**fitness_type**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- fitness_type

Select the fitness type for JEGA methods

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Required</td>
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<td>merit_function</td>
<td>Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>constraint_penalty</td>
<td>Multiplier for the penalty function</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The two JEGA methods use different fitness types, which are described on their respective pages.
6.2. METHOD

**merit_function**
- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- fitness_type
- merit_function

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints

**Specification**
**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**
A merit_function is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.

**constraint_penalty**
- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- fitness_type
- constraint_penalty

Multiplier for the penalty function

**Specification**
**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**
The merit_function fitness assessor uses an exterior penalty function formulation to penalize infeasible designs. The specification allows the input of a constraint_penalty which is the multiplier to use on the constraint violations.
replacement_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- replacement_type

Select a replacement type for JEGA methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Group 1</td>
<td>elitist</td>
<td>Use the best designs to form a new population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>favor_feasible</td>
<td>Prioritize feasible designs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>roulette_wheel</td>
<td>Replace population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>unique_roulette_wheel</td>
<td>Replace population</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation. The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. The replacement_type of roulette_wheel or unique_roulette_wheel may be used either with MOGA or SOGA problems however they are not recommended for use with MOGA. Given that the only two fitness assessors for MOGA are the layer_rank and domination_count, the recommended selector is the below_limit selector. The below_limit replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs.

In roulette_wheel replacement, each design is conceptually allotted a portion of a wheel proportional to its fitness relative to the fitnesses of the other Designs. Then, portions of the wheel are chosen at random and the design occupying those portions are duplicated into the next population. Those Designs allotted larger portions of the wheel are more likely to be selected (potentially many times). unique_roulette_wheel replacement is the same as roulette_wheel replacement, with the exception that a design may only be selected once. The below_limit selector attempts to keep all designs for which the negated fitness is below a certain limit. The values are negated to keep with the convention that higher fitness is better. The inputs to the below_limit selector are the limit as a real value, and a shrinkage_percentage as a real value. The shrinkage_percentage defines the minimum amount of selections that will take place if enough designs are available. It is interpreted as a percentage of the population size that must go on to the subsequent generation. To enforce this, below_limit makes all the selections it would make anyway and if that is not enough, it takes the remaining that it needs from the best of what is left (effectively raising its limit as far as it must to get the minimum number of selections). It continues until it has made enough selections. The shrinkage_percentage is designed to prevent extreme decreases in the population size at any given generation, and thus prevent a big loss of genetic diversity in a very short time. Without a shrinkage limit, a small group of ”super” designs may appear and quickly cull the population down to a size on the order of the limiting value. In this case, all the diversity of the population is lost and it is expensive to re-diversify and spread the population. The
The replacement type for a SOGA may be roulette_wheel, unique_roulette_wheel, elitist, or favor_feasible. The elitist selector simply chooses the required number of designs taking the most fit. For example, if 100 selections are requested, then the top 100 designs as ranked by fitness will be selected and the remaining will be discarded. The favor_feasible replacement type first considers feasibility as a selection criteria. If that does not produce a "winner" then it moves on to considering fitness value. Because of this, any fitness assessor used with the favor_feasible selector must only account objectives in the creation of fitness. Therefore, there is such a fitness assessor and it’s use is enforced when the favor_feasible selector is chosen. In that case, and if the output level is set high enough, a message will be presented indicating that the weighted_sum_only fitness assessor will be used.

elitist

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- replacement_type
- elitist

Use the best designs to form a new population

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The elitist (default) setting creates a new population using (a) the replacement_size best individuals from the current population, (b) and population_size - replacement_size individuals randomly selected from the newly generated individuals. It is possible in this case to lose a good solution from the newly generated individuals if it is not randomly selected for replacement; however, the default new_solutions_generated value is set such that the entire set of newly generated individuals will be selected for replacement.

favor_feasible

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- replacement_type
- favor_feasible

Prioritize feasible designs

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
**Description**

This replacement operator will always prefer a more feasible design to a less feasible one. Beyond that, it favors solutions based on an assigned fitness value which must have been installed by the weighted sum only fitness assessor.

The `favor_feasible` replacement type first considers feasibility as a selection criteria. If that does not produce a "winner", then it moves on to considering fitness value. Because of this, any fitness assessor used with the `favor_feasible` selector must only account objectives in the creation of fitness. Therefore, there is such a fitness assessor and it’s use is enforced when the `favor_feasible` selector is chosen. In that case, and if the output level is set high enough, a message will be presented indicating that the `weighted_sum_only` fitness assessor will be used.

**roulette_wheel**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- replacement_type
- roulette_wheel

Replace population

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation. The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. The `replacement_type` of `roulette_wheel` or `unique_roulette_wheel` may be used either with MOGA or SOGA problems however they are not recommended for use with MOGA. Given that the only two fitness assessors for MOGA are the `layer_rank` and `domination_count`, the recommended selector is the `below_limit` selector. The `below_limit` replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs. The `replacement_type` of `favor_feasible` is specific to a SOGA. This replacement operator will always prefer a more feasible design to a less feasible one. Beyond that, it favors solutions based on an assigned fitness value which must have been installed by the weighted sum only fitness assessor (see the discussion below).

**unique_roulette_wheel**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- replacement_type
- unique_roulette_wheel

Replace population
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Replace the population with members selected to continue in the next generation. The pool of potential members is the current population and the current set of offspring. The `replacement_type` of `roulette_wheel` or `unique_roulette_wheel` may be used either with MOGA or SOGA problems however they are not recommended for use with MOGA. Given that the only two fitness assessors for MOGA are the `layer_rank` and `domination_count`, the recommended selector is the `below_limit` selector. The `below_limit` replacement will only keep designs that are dominated by fewer than a limiting number of other designs. The `replacement_type` of `favor_feasible` is specific to a SOGA. This replacement operator will always prefer a more feasible design to a less feasible one. Beyond that, it favors solutions based on an assigned fitness value which must have been installed by the weighted sum only fitness assessor (see the discussion below).

**convergence_type**

- **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - soga
  - convergence_type

Select the convergence type for JEGA methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<p>| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>(Choose One)</th>
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<td>best_fitness_tracker</td>
<td>Tracks the best fitness of the population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>average_fitness_tracker</td>
<td>Tracks the average fitness of the population</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The two JEGA methods use different convergence types, which are described on their respective pages. All the convergence types are modified by the optional keywords `percent_change` and `num_generations`.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

best_fitness_tracker

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- convergence_type
- best_fitness_tracker

Tracks the best fitness of the population

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>convergence</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_generations</td>
<td>criterion for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The best_fitness_tracker tracks the best fitness in the population. Convergence occurs after num_generations has passed and there has been less than percent_change in the best fitness value. The percent change can be as low as 0% in which case there must be no change at all over the number of generations.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- average_fitness_tracker

percent_change

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- convergence_type
- best_fitness_tracker
- percent_change

Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The percent_change is the threshold beneath which convergence is attained whereby it is compared to the metric value computed.

num_generations

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- convergence_type
- best_fitness_tracker
- num_generations

Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The num_generations is the number of generations over which the metric value should be tracked. Convergence will be attained if the recorded metric is below percent_change for num_generations consecutive generations.

average_fitness_tracker

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- convergence_type
- average_fitness_tracker

Tracks the average fitness of the population

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
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<td>percent_change</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>num_generations</td>
<td>Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `convergence_type` called `average_fitness_tracker` keeps track of the average fitness in a population. If this average fitness does not change more than `percent_change` over some number of generations, `num_generations`, then the solution is reported as converged and the algorithm terminates.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `best_fitness_tracker`

`percent_change`

- `Keywords Area`
- `method`
- `soga`
- `convergence_type`
- `average_fitness_tracker`
- `percent_change`

Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `percent_change` is the threshold beneath which convergence is attained whereby it is compared to the metric value computed.
6.2. METHOD

num_generations

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- convergence_type
- average_fitness_tracker
- num_generations

Define the convergence criterion for JEGA methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The num_generations is the number of generations over which the metric value should be tracked. Convergence will be attained if the recorded metric is below percent_change for num_generations consecutive generations.

population_size

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- population_size

Set the initial population size in JEGA methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The number of designs in the initial population is specified by the population_size. Note that the population_size only sets the size of the initial population. The population size may vary in the JEGA methods according to the type of operators chosen for a particular optimization run.
**log_file**
- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- log_file

Specify the name of a log file

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

New as of JEGA v2.0 is the introduction of the `log_file` specification. JEGA now uses a logging library to output messages and status to the user. JEGA can be configured at build time to log to both the console window and a text file, one or the other, or neither. The `log_file` input is a string name of a file into which to log. If the build was configured without file logging in JEGA, this input is ignored. If file logging is enabled and no `log_file` is specified, the default file name of JEGAGlobal.log is used.

**print_each_pop**
- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- print_each_pop

Print every population to a population file

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

New to JEGA v2.0 is the introduction of the `print_each_pop` specification. It serves as a flag and if supplied, the population at each generation will be printed to a file named "population<GEN#>.dat" where <GEN#> is the number of the current generation.
6.2. METHOD

initialization_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- initialization_type

Specify how to initialize the population

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Required*(Choose One)*</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>simple_random</td>
<td>Create random initial solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>unique_random</td>
<td>Create random initial solutions, but enforce uniqueness (default)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flat_file</td>
<td>Read initial solutions from file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The initialization_type defines how the initial population is created for the GA. There are three types:

1. simple_random
2. unique_random (default)
3. flat_file

Setting the size for the flat_file initializer has the effect of requiring a minimum number of designs to create. If this minimum number has not been created once the files are all read, the rest are created using the unique_random initializer and then the simple_random initializer if necessary.

simple_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- initialization_type
- simple_random

Create random initial solutions
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

simple_random creates initial solutions with random variable values according to a uniform random number distribution. It gives no consideration to any previously generated designs.

unique_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- initialization_type
- unique_random

Create random initial solutions, but enforce uniqueness (default)

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

unique_random is the same as simple_random, except that when a new solution is generated, it is checked against the rest of the solutions. If it duplicates any of them, it is rejected.

flat_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- initialization_type
- flat_file

Read initial solutions from file

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING
6.2. METHOD

Description

`flat_file` allows the initial population to be read from a flat file. If `flat_file` is specified, a file name must be given.

Variables can be delimited in the flat file in any way you see fit with a few exceptions. The delimiter must be the same on any given line of input with the exception of leading and trailing whitespace. So a line could look like: 1.1, 2.2, 3.3 for example but could not look like: 1.1, 2.2 3.3. The delimiter can vary from line to line within the file which can be useful if data from multiple sources is pasted into the same input file. The delimiter can be any string that does not contain any of the characters .+-dDeE or any of the digits 0-9. The input will be read until the end of the file. The algorithm will discard any configurations for which it was unable to retrieve at least the number of design variables. The objective and constraint entries are not required but if ALL are present, they will be recorded and the design will be tagged as evaluated so that evaluators may choose not to re-evaluate them.

Setting the size for this initializer has the effect of requiring a minimum number of designs to create. If this minimum number has not been created once the files are all read, the rest are created using the `unique_random` initializer and then the `simple_random` initializer if necessary.

crossover_type

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **soga**
- **crossover_type**

Select a crossover type for JEGA methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>multi_point_binary</td>
<td>Use bit switching for crossover events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>multi_point-.parameterized_binary</td>
<td>Use bit switching to crossover each design variable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>multi_point_real</td>
<td>Perform crossover in real valued genome</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>shuffle_random</td>
<td>Perform crossover by choosing design variable(s)</td>
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<td></td>
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</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Optional | crossover_rate | Specify the probability of a crossover event |

**Description**

There are many crossover types available. *multi_point_binary* crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). *multi_point_parameterized_binary* crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. *multi_point_real* crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by 10^6 and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.

The final crossover type is *shuffle_random*. This crossover type performs crossover by choosing design variables at random from a specified number of parents enough times that the requested number of children are produced. For example, consider the case of 3 parents producing 2 children. This operator would go through and for each design variable, select one of the parents as the donor for the child. So it creates a random shuffle of the parent design variable values. The relative numbers of children and parents are controllable to allow for as much mixing as desired. The more parents involved, the less likely that the children will wind up exact duplicates of the parents.

All crossover types take a *crossover_rate*. The crossover rate is used to calculate the number of crossover operations that take place. The number of crossovers is equal to the rate * population_size.

**multi_point_binary**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- crossover_type
- *multi_point_binary*

Use bit switching for crossover events

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
6.2. METHOD

Description

There are many crossover types available. **multi_point_binary** crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). **multi_point_parameterized_binary** crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. **multi_point_real** crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by $10^6$ and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.

**multi_point_parameterized_binary**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- crossover_type
- multi_point_parameterized_binary

Use bit switching to crossover each design variable

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

There are many crossover types available. **multi_point_binary** crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). **multi_point_parameterized_binary** crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. **multi_point_real** crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by $10^6$ and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.
multi_point_real

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- crossover_type
- multi_point_real

Perform crossover in real valued genome

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

There are many crossover types available. `multi_point_binary` crossover requires an integer number, N, of crossover points. This crossover type performs a bit switching crossover at N crossover points in the binary encoded genome of two designs. Thus, crossover may occur at any point along a solution chromosome (in the middle of a gene representing a design variable, for example). `multi_point_parameterized_binary` crossover is similar in that it performs a bit switching crossover routine at N crossover points. However, this crossover type performs crossover on each design variable individually. So the individual chromosomes are crossed at N locations. `multi_point_real` crossover performs a variable switching crossover routing at N crossover points in the real real valued genome of two designs. In this scheme, crossover only occurs between design variables (chromosomes). Note that the standard solution chromosome representation in the JEGA algorithm is real encoded and can handle integer or real design variables. For any crossover types that use a binary representation, real variables are converted to long integers by multiplying the real number by $10^6$ and then truncating. Note that this assumes a precision of only six decimal places. Discrete variables are represented as integers (indices within a list of possible values) within the algorithm and thus require no special treatment by the binary operators.

shuffle_random

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- crossover_type
- shuffle_random

Perform crossover by choosing design variable(s)

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
Description

The final crossover type is `shuffle_random`. This crossover type performs crossover by choosing design variables at random from a specified number of parents enough times that the requested number of children are produced. For example, consider the case of 3 parents producing 2 children. This operator would go through and for each design variable, select one of the parents as the donor for the child. So it creates a random shuffle of the parent design variable values. The relative numbers of children and parents are controllable to allow for as much mixing as desired. The more parents involved, the less likely that the children will wind up exact duplicates of the parents.

- **num_parents**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **soga**
  - **crossover_type**
  - **shuffle_random**
  - **num_parents**

  Number of parents in random shuffle crossover

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

Number of parents in random shuffle crossover

- **num_offspring**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **soga**
  - **crossover_type**
• shuffle_random

• num_offspring

Number of offspring in random shuffle crossover

**Specification**

Alias: none

*Argument(s):* INTEGER

**Description**

Number of offspring in random shuffle crossover

**crossover_rate**

- **Keywords Area**

- **method**

- **soga**

- **crossover_type**

- **crossover_rate**

Specify the probability of a crossover event

**Specification**

Alias: none

*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

The `crossover_type` controls what approach is employed for combining parent genetic information to create offspring, and the `crossover_rate` specifies the probability of a crossover operation being performed to generate a new offspring. The SCOLIB EA method supports three forms of crossover, `two_point`, `blend`, and `uniform`, which generate a new individual through combinations of two parent individuals. Two-point crossover divides each parent into three regions, where offspring are created from the combination of the middle region from one parent and the end regions from the other parent. Since the SCOLIB EA does not utilize bit representations of variable values, the crossover points only occur on coordinate boundaries, never within the bits of a particular coordinate. Uniform crossover creates offspring through random combination of coordinates from the two parents. Blend crossover generates a new individual randomly along the multidimensional vector connecting the two parents.
6.2. METHOD

**mutation_type**
- **Keywords Area**
- method
- soga
- **mutation_type**

Select a mutation type for JEGA methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

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<tr>
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<th>Description of Group</th>
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<td>Group 1</td>
<td>bit_random</td>
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<td></td>
<td>replace_uniform</td>
<td>Use uniformly distributed value over range of parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>offset_normal</td>
<td>Set mutation offset to use a normal distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>offset_cauchy</td>
<td>Use a Cauchy distribution for the mutation offset</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>offset_uniform</td>
<td>Set mutation offset to use a uniform distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_rate</td>
<td>Set probability of a mutation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Five mutation types are available for selection by keyword: replace_uniform, bit_random, offset_-cauchy, offset_normal, and offset_uniform. They are described in greater detail on their respective keyword pages.

The `offset_*` mutators all act by adding a random "offset" to a variable value. The random amount has a mean of zero in all cases. The size of the offset is controlled using the `mutation_scale` keyword, which is interpreted differently for each `offset_*` type.

The rate of mutations for all types is controlled using the `mutation_rate`. The rate is applied differently in each `mutation_type`.

**bit_random**
- **Keywords Area**
- method
Mutate by flipping a random bit

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `bit_random` mutator introduces random variation by first converting a randomly chosen variable of a randomly chosen design into a binary string. It then flips a randomly chosen bit in the string from a 1 to a 0 or vice versa. In this mutation scheme, the resulting value has more probability of being similar to the original value.

**replace_uniform**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- mutation_type
- replace_uniform

Use uniformly distributed value over range of parameter

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

`replace_uniform` introduces random variation by first randomly choosing a design variable of a randomly selected design and reassigning it to a random valid value for that variable. No consideration of the current value is given when determining the new value.

**offset_normal**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- mutation_type
- offset_normal

Set mutation offset to use a normal distribution
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_scale</td>
<td>Scales mutation across range of parameter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The offset_normal mutator introduces random variation by adding a Gaussian random amount to a variable value. The random amount has a standard deviation dependent on the mutation_scale.

- **mutation_scale**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - soga
  - mutation_type
  - offset_normal
  - mutation_scale

  Scales mutation across range of parameter

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The mutation_scale is a fraction in the range [0, 1] and is meant to help control the amount of variation that takes place when a variable is mutated. Its behavior depends on the selected mutation_type. For offset_normal and offset_cauchy, mutation_scale is multiplied by the range of the variable being mutated to obtain the standard deviation of the offset. For offset_uniform, the range of possible deviation amounts is +/- 1/2 * (mutation_scale * variable range).

- **offset_cauchy**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - soga
  - mutation_type
  - offset_cauchy

  Use a Cauchy distribution for the mutation offset
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_scale</td>
<td>Scales mutation across range of parameter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The offset_cauchy mutator introduces random variation by adding a Cauchy random amount to a variable value. The random amount has a standard deviation dependent on the mutation_scale.

- **mutation_scale**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - soga
  - mutation_type
  - offset_cauchy
  - mutation_scale
  Scales mutation across range of parameter

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

The mutation_scale is a fraction in the range [0, 1] and is meant to help control the amount of variation that takes place when a variable is mutated. Its behavior depends on the selected mutation_type. For offset_normal and offset_cauchy, mutation_scale is multiplied by the range of the variable being mutated to obtain the standard deviation of the offset. For offset_uniform, the range of possible deviation amounts is +/- 1/2 * (mutation_scale * variable range).

- **offset_uniform**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - soga
  - mutation_type
  - offset_uniform
  Set mutation offset to use a uniform distribution
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional   |                      | mutation_scale | Scales mutation across range of parameter |

Description

The `offset_uniform` mutator introduces random variation by adding a uniform random amount to a variable value. The random amount depends on the `mutation_scale`.

- `mutation_scale`
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - soga
  - `mutation_type`
  - `offset_uniform`
  - `mutation_scale`
  
  Scales mutation across range of parameter

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The `mutation_scale` is a fraction in the range \([0, 1]\) and is meant to help control the amount of variation that takes place when a variable is mutated. Its behavior depends on the selected `mutation_type`. For `offset_normal` and `offset_cauchy`, `mutation_scale` is multiplied by the range of the variable being mutated to obtain the standard deviation of the offset. For `offset_uniform`, the range of possible deviation amounts is +/- 1/2 * (`mutation_scale` * variable range).

- `mutation_rate`
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - soga
  - `mutation_type`
  - `mutation_rate`
  
  Set probability of a mutation
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

All mutation types have a \texttt{mutation\_rate}, which controls the number of mutations performed. For \texttt{replace\_uniform} and all the \texttt{offset\_*} types, the number of mutations performed is the product of \texttt{mutation\_rate} and \texttt{population\_size}. For \texttt{bit\_random}, it’s the product of the \texttt{mutation\_rate}, number of design variables, and population size.

\texttt{seed}

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random \texttt{seed} control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

\textbf{Default Behavior}

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

\textbf{Expected Output}

If \texttt{seed} is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

\textbf{Usage Tips}

If a stochastic study was run without \texttt{seed} specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

\begin{verbatim}
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
\end{verbatim}
6.2. METHOD

linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear_inequality_constraint_matrix

Define coefficients of the linear inequality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the inequality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables in the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where the bounds are optionally specified by linear_inequality_lower_bounds, and linear_inequality_upper_bounds. The bounds, if not specified, will default to -infinity, and 0, respectively, resulting in one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0$$

linear_inequality_lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear_inequality_lower_bounds

Define lower bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

In the inequality case, the lower \( a_l \) and upper \( a_u \) bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

\[
a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u
\]

Where \( A \) is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[
Ax \leq 0.0
\]

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than \(+\text{bigRealBoundSize} (1.e+30, \text{as defined in Minimizer})\) are treated as \(+\text{infinity}\) and any lower bound values less than \(-\text{bigRealBoundSize}\) are treated as \(-\text{infinity}\).

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since \(-\text{DBL_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}\)).

linear_inequality_upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear_inequality_upper_bounds

Define upper bounds for the linear inequality constraint

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

In the inequality case, the lower $a_l$ and upper $a_u$ bounds provide constraint limits for the two-sided formulation:

$$a_l \leq Ax \leq a_u$$

Where $A$ is the constrain matrix of variable coefficients.

As with nonlinear inequality constraints (see objective functions), the default linear inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

$$Ax \leq 0$$

result when there are no user bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than $+\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ ($1.0e+30$, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as $+\infty$ and any lower bound values less than $-\text{bigRealBoundSize}$ are treated as $-\infty$.

This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since $-\text{DBL\_MAX} < -\text{bigRealBoundSize}$).

**linear_inequality_scale_types**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **soga**
- **linear_inequality_scale_types**

Specify how each linear inequality constraint is scaled

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

**linear_inequality_scale_types** provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear inequality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- `'none'` - no scaling
- `'value'` - characteristic value if this is chosen, then **linear_inequality_scales** must be specified
- `'auto'` - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.
Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_0}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$

$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$

$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

**linear_inequality_scales**

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear_inequality_scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear inequalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear_constraints

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s)*: REALLIST

**Description**

Each entry in `linear_inequality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

Behavior depends on the choice of `linear_inequality_scale_type`:

- `scale_type` - behavior of `linear_inequality_scales`
  - `'none'` - ignored
  - `'value'` - required
  - `'auto'` - optional
6.2. METHOD

If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the constraint.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling. For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\bar{x}_j = \frac{x_j - x_{O_j}}{x_{M_j}}$$

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \bar{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \bar{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to [0,1].

**linear.equality.constraint_matrix**

- **Keywords**: Area
- **method**
- **soga**
- **linear.equality.constraint_matrix**

Define coefficients of the linear equalities

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **linear_constraints**

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: REALLIST

**Description**

In the equality case, the constraint matrix $A$ provides coefficients for the variables on the left hand side of:

$$Ax = a_t$$
linear_equality_targets

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear_equality_targets

Define target values for the linear equality constraints

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
In the equality case, the targets \( a_t \) provide the equality constraint right hand sides:

\[
Ax = a_t
\]

If this is not specified, the defaults for the equality constraint targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint:

\[
Ax = 0.0
\]

linear_equality_scale_types

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear_equality_scale_types

Specify how each linear equality constraint is scaled

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- linear_constraints

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

linear
equality
types provide strings specifying the scaling type for each linear equality constraint, in methods that support scaling.

An entry may be selected for each constraint. The options are:

- ‘none’ - no scaling
- ‘value’ - characteristic value if this is chosen, then linear.equality.scales must be specified
- ‘auto’ - automatic scaling If a single string is specified it will apply to all constraints.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables $x$:

$$\tilde{x}^j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M}$$

we have the following system for linear equality constraints

$$a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U$$
$$a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U$$
$$a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M)\tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O$$
$$\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U$$

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to $[0,1]$.

linear.equality.scales

- Keywords Area
- method
- soga
- linear.equality.scales

Define the characteristic values to scale linear equalities

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- linear.constraints

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Each entry in `linear_equality_scales` may be a user-specified, nonzero characteristic value to be used in scaling each constraint.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

Scaling for linear constraints is applied after any continuous variable scaling.

For example, for variable scaling on continuous design variables \( x \):

\[
\tilde{x}_j = \frac{x^j - x^j_O}{x^j_M - x^j_O}
\]

we have the following system for linear inequality constraints

\[
a_L \leq A_i x \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L \leq A_i (\text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} + x_O) \leq a_U
\]

\[
a_L - A_i x_O \leq A_i \text{diag}(x_M) \tilde{x} \leq a_U - A_i x_O
\]

\[
\tilde{a}_L \leq \tilde{A}_i \tilde{x} \leq \tilde{a}_U
\]

and user-specified or automatically computed scaling multipliers are applied to this final transformed system, which accounts for continuous design variable scaling. When automatic scaling is in use for linear constraints they are linearly scaled by a computed characteristic value, but not affinely to \([0,1]\).

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **soga**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SRR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.39 coliny_pattern_search

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search

Pattern search, derivative free optimization method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_scolib
- package_coliny
- global_optimization_methods

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional | Group | constant_penalty | Description |
| Optional | no_expansion | Don’t allow expansion of the search pattern |
| Optional | expand_after_success | Set the factor by which a search pattern can be expanded |
| Optional | pattern_basis | Pattern basis selection |
| Optional | stochastic | Generate trial points in random order |
### Description

Pattern search techniques are nongradient-based optimization methods which use a set of offsets from the current iterate to locate improved points in the design space.

See the page `package_scolib` for important information regarding all SCOLIB methods.

Traditional pattern search methods search with a fixed pattern of search directions to try to find improvements to the current iterate. The SCOLIB pattern search methods generalize this simple algorithmic strategy to enable control of how the search pattern is adapted, as well as how each search pattern is evaluated. The `stochastic` and `synchronization` specifications denote how the trial points are evaluated.
stochastic specification indicates that the trial points are considered in a random order. For parallel pattern search, synchronization dictates whether the evaluations are scheduled using a blocking scheduler or a nonblocking scheduler. In the blocking case, all points in the pattern are evaluated (in parallel), and if the best of these trial points is an improving point, then it becomes the next iterate. These runs are reproducible, assuming use of the same seed in the stochastic case. In the nonblocking case, all points in the pattern may not be evaluated, since the first improving point found becomes the next iterate. Since the algorithm steps will be subject to parallel timing variabilities, these runs will not generally be repeatable. The synchronization specification has similar connotations for sequential pattern search. If blocking is specified, then each sequential iteration terminates after all trial points have been considered, and if nonblocking is specified, then each sequential iteration terminates after the first improving trial point is evaluated. In this release, both blocking and nonblocking specifications result in blocking behavior (except in the case where exploratory_moves below is set to adaptive_pattern). Nonblocking behavior will be re-enabled after some underlying technical issues have been resolved.

The particular form of the search pattern is controlled by the pattern_basis specification. If pattern_basis is coordinate basis, then the pattern search uses a plus and minus offset in each coordinate direction, for a total of $2n$ function evaluations in the pattern. This case is depicted in Figure 5.3 for three coordinate dimensions.

If pattern_basis is simplex, then pattern search uses a minimal positive basis simplex for the parameter space, for a total of $n+1$ function evaluations in the pattern. Note that the simplex pattern basis can be used for unbounded problems only. The total_pattern_size specification can be used to augment the basic
coordinate and simplex patterns with additional function evaluations, and is particularly useful for parallel load balancing. For example, if some function evaluations in the pattern are dropped due to duplication or bound constraint interaction, then the total_pattern_size specification instructs the algorithm to generate new offsets to bring the total number of evaluations up to this consistent total.

The exploratory_moves specification controls how the search pattern is adapted. (The search pattern can be adapted after an improving trial point is found, or after all trial points in a search pattern have been found to be unimproving points.) The following exploratory moves selections are supported by SCOLIB:

- The basic_pattern case is the simple pattern search approach, which uses the same pattern in each iteration.
- The multi_step case examines each trial step in the pattern in turn. If a successful step is found, the pattern search continues examining trial steps about this new point. In this manner, the effects of multiple successful steps are cumulative within a single iteration. This option does not support any parallelism and will result in a serial pattern search.
- The adaptive_pattern case invokes a pattern search technique that adaptively rescales the different search directions to maximize the number of redundant function evaluations. See [45] "Hart et al., 2001" for details of this method. In preliminary experiments, this method had more robust performance than the standard basic_pattern case in serial tests. This option supports a limited degree of parallelism. After successful iterations (where the step length is not contracted), a parallel search will be performed. After unsuccessful iterations (where the step length is contracted), only a single evaluation is performed.

The initial_delta and threshold_delta specifications provide the initial offset size and the threshold size at which to terminate the algorithm. For any dimension that has both upper and lower bounds, this step length will be internally rescaled to provide search steps of length initial_delta * range * 0.1. This rescaling does not occur for other dimensions, so search steps in those directions have length initial_delta. Note that the factor of 0.1 in the rescaling could result in an undesirably small initial step. This can be offset by providing a large initial_delta.

In general, pattern search methods can expand and contract their step lengths. SCOLIB pattern search methods contract the step length by the value contraction_factor, and they expand the step length by the value (1/contraction_factor). The expand_after_success control specifies how many successful objective function improvements must occur with a specific step length prior to expansion of the step length, whereas the no_expansion flag instructs the algorithm to forgo pattern expansion altogether.

Finally, constraint infeasibility can be managed in a somewhat more sophisticated manner than the simple weighted penalty function. If the constant_penalty specification is used, then the simple weighted penalty scheme described above is used. Otherwise, the constraint penalty is adapted to the value constraint_penalty/L, where L is the the smallest step length used so far.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- coliny_beta
- coliny_direct
- coliny_cobyla
- coliny_ea
- coliny_solis_wets
constant_penalty

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- constant_penalty

Use a simple weighted penalty to manage feasibility

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Finally, constraint infeasibility can be managed in a somewhat more sophisticated manner than the simple weighted penalty function. If the constant_penalty specification is used, then the simple weighted penalty scheme described above is used. Otherwise, the constraint penalty is adapted to the value constraint_penalty/L, where L is the smallest step length used so far.

no_expansion

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- constant_penalty
- no_expansion

Don’t allow expansion of the search pattern

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

In general, pattern search methods can expand and contract their step lengths. SCOLIB pattern search methods contract the step length by the value contraction_factor, and they expand the step length by the value (1/contraction_factor). The expand_after_success control specifies how many successful objective function improvements must occur with a specific step length prior to expansion of the step length, whereas the no_expansion flag instructs the algorithm to forgo pattern expansion altogether.
6.2. METHOD

expand_after_success

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- expand_after_success

Set the factor by which a search pattern can be expanded

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

In general, pattern search methods can expand and contract their step lengths. SCOLIB pattern search methods contract the step length by the value contraction_factor, and they expand the step length by the value (1/contraction_factor). The expand_after_success control specifies how many successful objective function improvements must occur with a specific step length prior to expansion of the step length, whereas the no_expansion flag instructs the algorithm to forgo pattern expansion altogether.

pattern_basis

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- pattern_basis

Pattern basis selection

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>coordinate</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Choose One</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use coordinate directions as search pattern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>simplex</td>
<td>Use a minimal simplex for the search pattern</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The particular form of the search pattern is controlled by the pattern basis specification. If pattern basis is coordinate basis, then the pattern search uses a plus and minus offset in each coordinate direction, for a total of \(2n\) function evaluations in the pattern. This case is depicted in Figure 5.3 for three coordinate dimensions.

coordinate
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- pattern_basis
- coordinate

Use coordinate directions as search pattern

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The particular form of the search pattern is controlled by the pattern basis specification. If pattern basis is coordinate basis, then the pattern search uses a plus and minus offset in each coordinate direction, for a total of \(2n\) function evaluations in the pattern. This case is depicted in Figure 5.3 for three coordinate dimensions.

simplex
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- pattern_basis
- simplex

Use a minimal simplex for the search pattern

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

If pattern_basis is simplex, then pattern search uses a minimal positive basis simplex for the parameter space, for a total of \( n+1 \) function evaluations in the pattern. Note that the simplex pattern basis can be used for unbounded problems only. The total_pattern_size specification can be used to augment the basic coordinate and simplex patterns with additional function evaluations, and is particularly useful for parallel load balancing. For example, if some function evaluations in the pattern are dropped due to duplication or bound constraint interaction, then the total_pattern_size specification instructs the algorithm to generate new offsets to bring the total number of evaluations up to this consistent total.

stochastic

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- stochastic

Generate trial points in random order

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Traditional pattern search methods search with a fixed pattern of search directions to try to find improvements to the current iterate. The SCOLIB pattern search methods generalize this simple algorithmic strategy to enable control of how the search pattern is adapted, as well as how each search pattern is evaluated. The stochastic and synchronization specifications denote how the trial points are evaluated. The stochastic specification indicates that the trial points are considered in a random order. For parallel pattern search, synchronization dictates whether the evaluations are scheduled using a blocking scheduler or a nonblocking scheduler (i.e.,

total_pattern_size

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- total_pattern_size

Total number of points in search pattern

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

If \texttt{pattern\_basis} is \texttt{simplex}, then pattern search uses a minimal positive basis simplex for the parameter space, for a total of \( n+1 \) function evaluations in the pattern. Note that the \texttt{simplex} pattern basis can be used for unbounded problems only. The \texttt{total\_pattern\_size} specification can be used to augment the basic coordinate and \texttt{simplex} patterns with additional function evaluations, and is particularly useful for parallel load balancing. For example, if some function evaluations in the pattern are dropped due to duplication or bound constraint interaction, then the \texttt{total\_pattern\_size} specification instructs the algorithm to generate new offsets to bring the total number of evaluations up to this consistent total.

\textbf{exploratory\_moves}

- Keywords Area
- method
- \texttt{coliny\_pattern\_search}
- \texttt{exploratory\_moves}

Exploratory moves selection

Specification

\textbf{Alias}: none
\textbf{Argument(s)}: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>multi_step</td>
<td>Examine trial step around successful new point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>adaptive_pattern</td>
<td>Adapatively rescale search directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>basic_pattern</td>
<td>Use the same search pattern every iteration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The \texttt{exploratory\_moves} specification controls how the search pattern is adapted. (The search pattern can be adapted after an improving trial point is found, or after all trial points in a search pattern have been found to be unimproving points.) The following exploratory moves selections are supported by SCOLIB:

\textbf{multi_step}

- Keywords Area
- method
- \texttt{coliny\_pattern\_search}
- \texttt{exploratory\_moves}
- \texttt{multi\_step}

Examine trial step around successful new point
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The multi_step case examines each trial step in the pattern in turn. If a successful step is found, the pattern search continues examining trial steps about this new point. In this manner, the effects of multiple successful steps are cumulative within a single iteration. This option does not support any parallelism and will result in a serial pattern

adaptive_pattern

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- exploratory_moves
- adaptive_pattern

Adaptively rescale search directions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The adaptive_pattern case invokes a pattern search technique that adaptively rescales the different search directions to maximize the number of redundant function evaluations. See [[45] "Hart et al., 2001"] for details of this method. In preliminary experiments, this method had more robust performance than the standard basic_pattern case in serial tests. This option supports a limited degree of parallelism. After successful iterations (where the step length is not contracted), a parallel search will be performed. After unsuccessful iterations (where the step length is contracted), only a single evaluation is performed.

basic_pattern

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- exploratory_moves
- basic_pattern

Use the same search pattern every iteration
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The basic pattern case is the simple pattern search approach, which uses the same pattern in each iteration.

**synchronization**
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- synchronization

Select how Dakota schedules function evaluations in a pattern search

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional Required</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>blocking</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluate all points in a pattern</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The synchronization specification can be used to specify the use of either blocking or nonblocking schedulers.

**blocking**
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- synchronization
- blocking

Evaluate all points in a pattern
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

In the blocking case, all points in the pattern are evaluated (in parallel), and if the best of these trial points is an improving point, then it becomes the next iterate. These runs are reproducible, assuming use of the same seed in the stochastic case.

nonblocking

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- synchronization
- nonblocking

Evaluate points in the pattern until an improving point is found

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

In the nonblocking case, all points in the pattern may not be evaluated. The first improving point found becomes the next iterate. Since the algorithm steps will be subject to parallel timing variabilities, these runs will not generally be repeatable.

contraction_factor

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- contraction_factor

Amount by which step length is rescaled

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

For pattern search methods, contraction_factor specifies the amount by which step length is rescaled after unsuccessful iterates, must be strictly between 0 and 1.

For methods that can expand the step length, the expansion is 1/contraction_factor

constraint_penalty

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- constraint_penalty

Multiplier for the penalty function

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds constraint_penalty times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. The default value of constraint_penalty is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.

initial_delta

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- initial_delta

Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

If initial_delta is supplied by the user, it will be applied in an absolute sense in all coordinate directions. APPS documentation advocates choosing initial_delta to be the approximate distance from the initial point to the solution. If this is unknown, it is advisable to err on the side of choosing an initial_delta that is too large or to not specify it. In the latter case, APPS will take a full step to the boundary in each direction. Relative application of initial_delta is not available unless the user scales the problem accordingly.
6.2. METHOD

threshold_delta

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- threshold_delta

Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

threshold_delta is the step length or pattern size used to determine convergence.

solution_target

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- solution_target

Stopping criteria based on objective function value

Specification

Alias: solution_accuracy

Argument(s): REAL

Description

solution_target is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below solution_target.

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- seed

Seed of the random number generator
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

show_misc_options

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- show_misc_options

Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.
6.2. METHOD

misc_options

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- misc_options

Set method options not available through Dakota spec

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_pattern_search
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                   0.1 0.2 0.6
                   0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
   lower_bounds = 0. 0.
   upper_bounds = 1. 1.
   descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
   analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```
response Functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.40 coliny_solis_wets

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets

Simple greedy local search method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_scolib
- package_coliny

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>contract_after_-failure</td>
<td></td>
<td>The number of unsuccessful cycles prior to contraction. Don’t allow expansion of the search pattern. Set the factor by which a search pattern can be expanded. Use a simple weighted penalty to manage feasibility. Amount by which step length is rescaled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>no_expansion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>expand_after_-success</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>constant_penalty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>contraction_factor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Optional Parameters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>constraint_penalty</td>
<td>Multiplier for the penalty function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>initial_delta</td>
<td>Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>threshold_delta</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on objective function value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>show_mis_options</td>
<td>Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>misc_options</td>
<td>Set method options not available through Dakota spec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The Solis-Wets method is a simple greedy local search heuristic for continuous parameter spaces. Solis-Wets generates trial points using a multivariate normal distribution, and unsuccessful trial points are reflected about the current point to find a descent direction.

See the page `package_scolib` for important information regarding all SCOLIB methods.

*coliny.solis.wets* is inherently serial, no concurrency is used.

These specifications have the same meaning as corresponding specifications for `coliny_pattern_search`. Please see that page for specification details.

In particular, `coliny.solis.wets` supports dynamic rescaling of the step length, and dynamic rescaling of the constraint penalty. The only new specification is `contract_after_failure`, which specifies the number of unsuccessful cycles which must occur with a specific delta prior to contraction of the delta.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `coliny.beta`
- `coliny.direct`
- `coliny_pattern_search`
6.2. METHOD

- coliny_cobyla
- coliny_ea

contract_after_failure
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- contract_after_failure

The number of unsuccessful cycles prior to contraction.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

In particular, coliny_solis_wets supports dynamic rescaling of the step length, and dynamic rescaling of the constraint penalty. The only new specification is contract_after_failure, which specifies the number of unsuccessful cycles which must occur with a specific delta prior to contraction of the delta.

no_expansion
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- no_expansion

Don’t allow expansion of the search pattern

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

In general, pattern search methods can expand and contract their step lengths. SCOLIB pattern search methods contract the step length by the value contraction_factor, and they expand the step length by the value (1/contraction_factor). The expand_after_success control specifies how many successful objective function improvements must occur with a specific step length prior to expansion of the step length, whereas the no_-expansion flag instructs the algorithm to forgo pattern expansion altogether.
expand_after_success

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- expand_after_success

Set the factor by which a search pattern can be expanded

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

In general, pattern search methods can expand and contract their step lengths. SCOLIB pattern search methods contract the step length by the value contraction_factor, and they expand the step length by the value (1/contraction_factor). The expand_after_success control specifies how many successful objective function improvements must occur with a specific step length prior to expansion of the step length, whereas the no_expansion flag instructs the algorithm to forgo pattern expansion altogether.

**constant_penalty**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- constant_penalty

Use a simple weighted penalty to manage feasibility

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Finally, constraint infeasibility can be managed in a somewhat more sophisticated manner than the simple weighted penalty function. If the constant_penalty specification is used, then the simple weighted penalty scheme described above is used. Otherwise, the constraint penalty is adapted to the value constraint_penalty/L, where L is the smallest step length used so far.
6.2. METHOD

**contraction_factor**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- contraction_factor

Amount by which step length is rescaled

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

For pattern search methods, `contraction_factor` specifies the amount by which step length is rescaled after unsuccessful iterates, must be strictly between 0 and 1.

For methods that can expand the step length, the expansion is \(1/\text{contraction}\_factor\).

**constraint_penalty**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- constraint_penalty

Multiplier for the penalty function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds `constraint\_penalty` times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. The default value of `constraint\_penalty` is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.
**initial_delta**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- initial_delta

Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

If `initial_delta` is supplied by the user, it will be applied in an absolute sense in all coordinate directions. APPS documentation advocates choosing `initial_delta` to be the approximate distance from the initial point to the solution. If this is unknown, it is advisable to err on the side of choosing an `initial_delta` that is too large or to not specify it. In the latter case, APPS will take a full step to the boundary in each direction. Relative application of `initial_delta` is not available unless the user scales the problem accordingly.

**threshold_delta**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- threshold_delta

Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

`threshold_delta` is the step length or pattern size used to determine convergence.

**solution_target**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- solution_target

Stopping criteria based on objective function value
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: solution_accuracy
Argument(s): REAL

Description

solution_target is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below solution_target.

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

- Default Behavior
  If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

- Expected Output
  If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

- Usage Tips
  If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 15347
show_misc_options

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- show_misc_options

Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

All SCOLIB methods support the `show_misc_options` optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The `misc_options` optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

misc_options

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- misc_options

Set method options not available through Dakota spec

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

All SCOLIB methods support the `show_misc_options` optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The `misc_options` optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.
6.2. METHOD

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_solis_wets
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
tagular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
          0.1 0.2 0.6
          0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
```python
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluationConcurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians
```

### 6.2.41 coliny_cobyla

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_cobyla**

Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA)

#### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_scolib
- package_coliny
- local_optimization_methods
- constrained

#### Specification

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>initial_delta</td>
<td>Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>threshold_delta</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on objective function value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>show_misc_options</td>
<td>Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>misc_options</td>
<td>Set method options not available through Dakota spec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The Constrained Optimization BY Linear Approximations (COBYLA) algorithm is an extension to the Nelder-Mead simplex algorithm for handling general linear/nonlinear constraints and is invoked using the coliny-cobyla group specification. The COBYLA algorithm employs linear approximations to the objective and constraint functions, the approximations being formed by linear interpolation at $N+1$ points in the space of the variables. We regard these interpolation points as vertices of a simplex. The step length parameter controls the size of the simplex and it is reduced automatically from $initial\_delta$ to $threshold\_delta$. One advantage that COBYLA has over many of its competitors is that it treats each constraint individually when calculating a change to the variables, instead of lumping the constraints together into a single penalty function.

See the page package_scolib for important information regarding all SCOLIB methods.

**coliny_cobyla** is inherently serial.

**Stopping Criteria**

DIRECT can be terminated with:

- `max_function_evaluations`
- `solution_target`

COBYLA currently only supports termination based on the `max_function_evaluations` and `solution_target` specifications.
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- coliny_beta
- coliny_direct
- coliny_pattern_search
- coliny_ea
- coliny_solis_wets

**initial_delta**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_cobyla
- initial_delta

Initial step size for non-gradient based optimizers

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

If *initial_delta* is supplied by the user, it will be applied in an absolute sense in all coordinate directions. APPS documentation advocates choosing *initial_delta* to be the approximate distance from the initial point to the solution. If this is unknown, it is advisable to err on the side of choosing an *initial_delta* that is too large or to not specify it. In the latter case, APPS will take a full step to the boundary in each direction. Relative application of *initial_delta* is not available unless the user scales the problem accordingly.

**threshold_delta**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_cobyla
- threshold_delta

Stopping criteria based on step length or pattern size

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

`threshold_delta` is the step length or pattern size used to determine convergence.

**solution_target**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_cobyla**
- **solution_target**

Stopping criteria based on objective function value

**Specification**

**Alias:** `solution_accuracy`

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

`solution_target` is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below `solution_target`.

**seed**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_cobyla**
- **seed**

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If `seed` is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

`show_misc_options`

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_cobyla
- `show_misc_options`

Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the `show_misc_options` optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The `misc_options` optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

`misc_options`

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_cobyla
- `misc_options`

Set method options not available through Dakota spec
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_cobyla
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.
Examples

```plaintext
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
  seed = 98765 rng rnum2
  response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

6.2.42 coliny_direct

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct

DIviding RECTangles method
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_scolib
- package_coliny
- global_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>division</td>
<td>Determine how rectangles are subdivided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>global_balance_-parameter</td>
<td>Tolerance for whether a subregion is worth dividing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>local_balance_-parameter</td>
<td>Tolerance for whether a subregion is worth dividing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>max_boxsize_limit</td>
<td>Stopping Criterion based on longest edge of hyperrectangle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>min_boxsize_limit</td>
<td>Stopping Criterion based on shortest edge of hyperrectangle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>constraint_penalty</td>
<td>Multiplier for the penalty function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on objective function value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>show_misc_options</th>
<th>Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>misc_options</td>
<td>Set method options not available through Dakota spec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The DIviding RECTangles (DIRECT) optimization algorithm is a derivative free global optimization method that balances local search in promising regions of the design space with global search in unexplored regions. As shown in Figure 5.1, DIRECT adaptively subdivides the space of feasible design points so as to guarantee that iterates are generated in the neighborhood of a global minimum in finitely many iterations.

![Design space partitioning with DIRECT width=10cm](image latex direct1.eps)

In practice, DIRECT has proven an effective heuristic for engineering design applications, for which it is able to quickly identify candidate solutions that can be further refined with fast local optimizers.

See the page `package_scolib` for important information regarding all SCOLIB methods.

The DIRECT algorithm supports concurrency up to twice the number of variables being optimized.

DIRECT uses the `solution_target`, `constraint_penalty` and `show_misc_options` specifications that are described in `package_scolib`. Note, however, that DIRECT uses a fixed penalty value for constraint violations (i.e. it is not dynamically adapted as is done in `coliny.pattern_search`).

### Search Parameters

The `global_balance_parameter` controls how much global search is performed by only allowing a subregion to be subdivided if the size of the subregion divided by the size of the largest subregion is at least `global_balance_parameter`. Intuitively, this forces large subregions to be subdivided before the smallest subregions are refined. The `local_balance_parameter` provides a tolerance for estimating whether the smallest subregion can provide a sufficient decrease to be worth subdividing; the default value is a small value that is suitable for most applications.

### Stopping Criteria

DIRECT can be terminated with:

- `max_function_evaluations`
- `max_iterations`
- `convergence_tolerance`
- `solution_target`
- `max_boxsize_limit`
- `min_boxsize_limit` - most effective in practice
6.2. METHOD

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- colony_beta
- colony_pattern_search
- colony_cobyla
- colony_ea
- colony_solis_wets
- ncsu_direct

**division**

- Keywords Area
- method
- colony_direct
- division

Determine how rectangles are subdivided

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required <em>(Choose One)</em></th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>(Choose One)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>major_dimension</td>
<td>(default) Longest edge of subregion is subdivided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>all_dimensions</td>
<td>All dimensions are simultaneously subdivided</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `division` specification determines how DIRECT subdivides each subregion of the search space.

If `division` is set to `major_dimension`, then the dimension representing the longest edge of the sub-region is subdivided (this is the default). If `division` is set to `all_dimensions`, then all dimensions are simultaneously subdivided.
major_dimension
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- division
- major_dimension
(default) Longest edge of subregion is subdivided

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Longest edge of subregion is subdivided

all_dimensions
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- division
- all_dimensions
All dimensions are simultaneously subdivided

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
All dimensions are simultaneously subdivided

global_balance_parameter
- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- global_balance_parameter
Tolerance for whether a subregion is worth dividing
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The global_balance_parameter controls how much global search is performed by only allowing a subregion to be subdivided if the size of the subregion divided by the size of the largest subregion is at least global_balance_parameter. Intuitively, this forces large subregions to be subdivided before the smallest subregions are refined.

local_balance_parameter

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- local_balance_parameter

Tolerance for whether a subregion is worth dividing

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

See parent page. The local_balance_parameter provides a tolerance for estimating whether the smallest subregion can provide a sufficient decrease to be worth subdividing; the default value is a small value that is suitable for most applications.

max_boxsize_limit

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- max_boxsize_limit

Stopping Criterion based on longest edge of hyperrectangle

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
**Description**

Each subregion considered by DIRECT has a **size**, which corresponds to the longest diagonal of the subregion. The max_boxsize_limit specification terminates DIRECT if the size of the largest subregion falls below this threshold.

**min_boxsize_limit**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- min_boxsize_limit

Stopping Criterion based on shortest edge of hyperrectangle

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

min_boxsize_limit is a setting that terminates the optimization when the measure of a hyperrectangle \( S \) with \( f(c(S)) = f_{\text{min}} \) is less than min_boxsize_limit.

Each subregion considered by DIRECT has a **size**, which corresponds to the longest diagonal of the subregion. The min_boxsize_limit specification terminates DIRECT if the size of the smallest subregion falls below this threshold.

In practice, this specification is likely to be more effective at limiting DIRECT’s search.

**constraint_penalty**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- constraint_penalty

Multiplier for the penalty function

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds constraint_penalty times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. The default value of constraint_penalty is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.
6.2. METHOD

solution_target

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- solution_target

Stopping criteria based on objective function value

**Specification**

**Alias:** solution_accuracy

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

solution_target is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below solution_target.

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
Examples

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**show_misc_options**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_direct**
- **show_misc_options**

Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

All SCOLIB methods support the `show_misc_options` optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The `misc_options` optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

**misc_options**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_direct**
- **misc_options**

Set method options not available through Dakota spec

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_direct
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,  
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.43  coliny_ea

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea

Evolutionary Algorithm

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_scolib
6.2. METHOD

- package_coliny
- global_optimization_methods

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>population_size</td>
<td>population_size</td>
<td>Set the population size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initialization_type</td>
<td>initialization_type</td>
<td>Specify how to initialize the population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>fitness_type</td>
<td>fitness_type</td>
<td>Select fitness type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>replacement_type</td>
<td>Select a replacement type for SCOLIB evolutionary algorithm (coliny_ea)</td>
</tr>
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<td>crossover_rate</td>
<td>Specify the probability of a crossover event</td>
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<td>Set probability of a mutation</td>
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<td>constraint_penalty</td>
<td>Multiplier for the penalty function</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on objective function value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>show_misc_options</td>
<td>show_misc_options</td>
<td>Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Optional | misc_options | Set method options not available through Dakota spec
| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

### Description

Evolutionary Algorithm

See the page `package_scolib` for important information regarding all SCOLIB methods.

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic optimization repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results. The `population_size` control specifies how many individuals will comprise the EA’s population.

The `initialization_type` defines the type of initialization for the population of the EA. There are three types: `simple_random`, `unique_random`, and `flat_file`. `simple_random` creates initial solutions with random variable values according to a uniform random number distribution. It gives no consideration to any previously generated designs. The number of designs is specified by the `population_size`. `unique_random` is the same as `simple_random`, except that when a new solution is generated, it is checked against the rest of the solutions. If it duplicates any of them, it is rejected. `flat_file` allows the initial population to be read from a flat file. If `flat_file` is specified, a file name must be given.

The `fitness_type` controls how strongly differences in “fitness” (i.e., the objective function) are weighted in the process of selecting “parents” for crossover:

- the `linear_rank` setting uses a linear scaling of probability of selection based on the rank order of each individual’s objective function within the population
- the `merit_function` setting uses a proportional scaling of probability of selection based on the relative value of each individual’s objective function within the population

The `replacement_type` controls how current populations and newly generated individuals are combined to create a new population. Each of the `replacement_type` selections accepts an integer value, which is referred to below as the `replacement_size`.

- The `random` setting creates a new population using (a) `replacement_size` randomly selected individuals from the current population, and (b) `population_size - replacement_size` individuals randomly selected from among the newly generated individuals (the number of which is optionally specified using `new_solutions_generated`) that are created for each generation (using the selection, crossover, and mutation procedures).
- The `chc` setting creates a new population using (a) the `replacement_size` best individuals from the `combination` of the current population and the newly generated individuals, and (b) `population_size - replacement_size` individuals randomly selected from among the remaining individuals in this combined pool. The `chc` setting is the preferred selection for many engineering problems.
- The `elitist` (default) setting creates a new population using (a) the `replacement_size` best individuals from the current population, (b) and `population_size - replacement_size` individuals randomly selected from the newly generated individuals. It is possible in this case to lose a good solution
from the newly generated individuals if it is not randomly selected for replacement; however, the default `new_solutions_generated` value is set such that the entire set of newly generated individuals will be selected for replacement.

Note that `new_solutions_generated` is not recognized by Dakota as a valid keyword unless `replacement_type` has been specified.

**Theory**

The basic steps of an evolutionary algorithm are depicted in Figure 5.2.

![Evolutionary Algorithm Diagram](image)

Figure 6.2: Depiction of evolutionary algorithm

They can be enumerated as follows:

1. Select an initial population randomly and perform function evaluations on these individuals
2. Perform selection for parents based on relative fitness
3. Apply crossover and mutation to generate `new_solutions_generated` new individuals from the selected parents
   - Apply crossover with a fixed probability from two selected parents
   - If crossover is applied, apply mutation to the newly generated individual with a fixed probability
   - If crossover is not applied, apply mutation with a fixed probability to a single selected parent
4. Perform function evaluations on the new individuals
5. Perform replacement to determine the new population
6. Return to step 2 and continue the algorithm until convergence criteria are satisfied or iteration limits are exceeded
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- coliny_beta
- coliny_direct
- coliny_pattern_search
- coliny_cobyla
- coliny_solis_wets

population_size

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- population_size

Set the population size

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The number of designs in the population is specified by the population_size.

initialization_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- initialization_type

Specify how to initialize the population

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
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<td>simple_random</td>
<td>Create random initial solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>unique_random</td>
<td>Create random initial solutions, but enforce uniqueness (default)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flat_file</td>
<td>Read initial solutions from file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `initialization_type` defines how the initial population is created for the GA. There are three types:

1. `simple_random`
2. `unique_random` (default)
3. `flat_file`

Setting the size for the `flat_file` initializer has the effect of requiring a minimum number of designs to create. If this minimum number has not been created once the files are all read, the rest are created using the `unique_random` initializer and then the `simple_random` initializer if necessary.

**simple_random**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **initialization_type**
- **simple_random**

Create random initial solutions

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

`simple_random` creates initial solutions with random variable values according to a uniform random number distribution. It gives no consideration to any previously generated designs.
**unique_random**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **initialization_type**
- **unique_random**

Create random initial solutions, but enforce uniqueness (default)

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

`unique_random` is the same as `simple_random`, except that when a new solution is generated, it is checked against the rest of the solutions. If it duplicates any of them, it is rejected.

**flat_file**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **initialization_type**
- **flat_file**

Read initial solutions from file

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

**Description**

`flat_file` allows the initial population to be read from a flat file. If `flat_file` is specified, a file name must be given.

**fitness_type**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **fitness_type**

Select fitness type
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>linear_rank</td>
<td>Set selection scaling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>merit_function</td>
<td>Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Description

The *fitness_type* controls how strongly differences in "fitness" (i.e., the objective function) are weighted in the process of selecting "parents" for crossover. It has two options, *linear_rank* and *merit_function*.

*linear_rank*

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- fitness_type
- linear_rank

Set selection scaling

*Specification*

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The *linear_rank* setting uses a linear scaling of probability of selection based on the rank order of each individual’s objective function within the population.

*merit_function*

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- fitness_type
- merit_function

Balance goals of reducing objective function and satisfying constraints
Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A merit function is a function in constrained optimization that attempts to provide joint progress toward reducing the objective function and satisfying the constraints.

replacement_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- replacement_type

Select a replacement type for SCOLIB evolutionary algorithm (coliny_ea)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>random</td>
<td>Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>chc</td>
<td>Create new population using replacement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>elitist</td>
<td>Use the best designs to form a new population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>new_solutions_generated</td>
<td>Replace population with individuals chosen from population</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The replacement_type controls how current populations and newly generated individuals are combined to create a new population. Each of the replacement_type selections accepts an associated integer value, which is specified by the replacement_size:

The random setting creates a new population using (a) replacement_size randomly selected individuals from the current population, and (b) population_size - replacement_size individuals randomly
6.2. METHOD

selected from among the newly generated individuals (the number of which is optionally specified using new-
solutions_generated) that are created for each generation (using the selection, crossover, and mutation
procedures).

The chc setting creates a new population using (a) the replacement_size best individuals from the
combination of the current population and the newly generated individuals, and (b) population_size -
replacement_size individuals randomly selected from among the remaining individuals in this combined
pool. The chc setting is the preferred selection for many engineering problems.

The elitist (default) setting creates a new population using (a) the replacement_size best individuals
from the current population, (b) and population_size - replacement_size individuals randomly selected
from the newly generated individuals. It is possible in this case to lose a good solution from the newly generated
individuals if it is not randomly selected for replacement; however, the default new_solutions_generated
value is set such that the entire set of newly generated individuals will be selected for replacement.

Note that new_solutions_generated is not recognized by Dakota as a valid keyword unless replacement-
type has been specified.

random

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- replacement_type
- random

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random keyword invokes Monte Carlo sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables
according to their probability distributions.

Default Behavior

Monte Carlo sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the random keyword must be specified
in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Monte Carlo sampling is more computationally expensive than Latin Hypercube Sampling as it requires a
larger number of samples to accurately estimate statistics.

Examples

method
sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 200
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

chc

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- replacement_type
- chc

Create new population using replacement

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The replacement_type controls how current populations and newly generated individuals are combined to create a new population. Each of the replacement_type selections accepts an integer value, which is referred as the replacement_size:

The chc setting creates a new population using (a) the replacement_size best individuals from the combination of the current population and the newly generated individuals, and (b) population_size - replacement_size individuals randomly selected from among the remaining individuals in this combined pool. The chc setting is the preferred selection for many engineering problems.

elitist

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- replacement_type
- elitist

Use the best designs to form a new population

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The elitist (default) setting creates a new population using (a) the replacement_size best individuals from the current population, (b) and population_size - replacement_size individuals randomly selected from the newly generated individuals. It is possible in this case to lose a good solution from the newly generated individuals if it is not randomly selected for replacement; however, the default new_solutions_generated value is set such that the entire set of newly generated individuals will be selected for replacement.
new_solutions_generated

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- replacement_type
- new_solutions_generated

Replace population with individuals chosen from population

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

- The random setting creates a new population using (a) replacement_size randomly selected individuals from the current population, and (b) population_size - replacement_size individuals randomly selected from among the newly generated individuals (the number of which is optionally specified using new_solutions_generated) that are created for each generation (using the selection, crossover, and mutation procedures).

crossover_rate

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- crossover_rate

Specify the probability of a crossover event

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The crossover_type controls what approach is employed for combining parent genetic information to create offspring, and the crossover_rate specifies the probability of a crossover operation being performed to generate a new offspring. The SCOLIB EA method supports three forms of crossover, two_point, blend, and uniform, which generate a new individual through combinations of two parent individuals. Two-point crossover divides each parent into three regions, where offspring are created from the combination of the middle region from one parent and the end regions from the other parent. Since the SCOLIB EA does not utilize bit representations of variable values, the crossover points only occur on coordinate boundaries, never within the bits of a particular coordinate. Uniform crossover creates offspring through random combination of coordinates from the two parents. Blend crossover generates a new individual randomly along the multidimensional vector connecting the two parents.
crossover_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- crossover_type

Select a crossover type

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>two_point</td>
<td>Combine middle of one parent with end of another</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blend</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Random blend of parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uniform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Randomly combine coordinates from parents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `crossover_type` controls what approach is employed for combining parent genetic information to create offspring. The SCOLIB EA method supports three forms of crossover, `two_point`, `blend`, and `uniform`, which generate a new individual through combinations of two parent individuals.

**two_point**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- crossover_type
- two_point

Combine middle of one parent with end of another

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description
Two-point crossover divides each parent into three regions, where offspring are created from the combination of the middle region from one parent and the end regions from the other parent. Since the SCOLIB EA does not utilize bit representations of variable values, the crossover points only occur on coordinate boundaries, never within the bits of a particular coordinate.

blend

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- crossover_type
- blend
  Random blend of parents

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
blend crossover generates a new individual randomly along the multidimensional vector connecting the two parents.

uniform

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- crossover_type
- uniform
  Randomly combine coordinates from parents

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Uniform crossover creates offspring through random combination of coordinates from the two parents.
mutation_rate

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_rate

Set probability of a mutation

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `mutation_rate` controls the probability of mutation being performed on an individual, both for new individuals generated by crossover (if crossover occurs) and for individuals from the existing population. It is the fraction of trial points that are mutated in a given iteration and therefore must be specified to be between 0 and 1.

mutation_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_type

Select a mutation type

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/ Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>replace_uniform</td>
<td>Replace coordinate with randomly generated value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>offset_normal</td>
<td>Set mutation offset to use a normal distribution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

The `mutation_type` controls what approach is employed in randomly modifying continuous design variables within the EA population. Each of the mutation methods generates coordinate-wise changes to individuals, usually by adding a random variable to a given coordinate value (an `offset_*` mutation), but also by replacing a given coordinate value with a random variable (a `replace_*` mutation).

Discrete design variables are always mutated using the `offset_uniform` method.

**replace_uniform**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_type
- replace_uniform

Replace coordinate with randomly generated value

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The `replace_uniform` mutation type generates a replacement value for a coordinate using a uniformly distributed value over the total range for that coordinate.

**offset_normal**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_type
- offset_normal

Set mutation offset to use a normal distribution
**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>mutation_scale</td>
<td>mutation_range</td>
<td>Scales mutation across range of parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Set uniform offset control for discrete parameters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `offset_normal` type is an "offset" mutation that adds a 0-mean random variable with a normal uniform distribution to the existing coordinate value. The offset is limited in magnitude by `mutation_scale`.

- **mutation_scale**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - coliny_ea
  - mutation_type
  - offset_normal
  - mutation_scale
  Scales mutation across range of parameter

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

The `mutation_scale` specifies a scale factor which scales continuous mutation offsets; this is a fraction of the total range of each dimension, so `mutation_scale` is a relative value between 0 and 1.

- **mutation_range**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - coliny_ea
  - mutation_type
6.2. METHOD

- offset_normal
- mutation_range

Set uniform offset control for discrete parameters

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `mutation_range` is used to control `offset_uniform` mutation used for discrete parameters. The replacement discrete value is the original value plus or minus an integer value up to `mutation_range`.

**offset_cauchy**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_type
- offset_cauchy

Use a Cauchy distribution for the mutation offset

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_scale</td>
<td>mutation_range</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `offset_cauchy` type is an "offset" mutation that adds a 0-mean random variable with a cauchy distribution to the existing coordinate value. The offset is limited in magnitude by `mutation_scale`. 
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

**Mutation Scale**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **mutation_type**
- **offset_cauchy**
- **mutation_scale**

Scales mutation across range of parameter

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `mutation_scale` specifies a scale factor which scales continuous mutation offsets; this is a fraction of the total range of each dimension, so `mutation_scale` is a relative value between 0 and 1.

**Mutation Range**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **mutation_type**
- **offset_cauchy**
- **mutation_range**

Set uniform offset control for discrete parameters

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `mutation_range` is used to control `offset_uniform` mutation used for discrete parameters. The replacement discrete value is the original value plus or minus an integer value up to `mutation_range.`
offset_uniform

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_type
- offset_uniform

Set mutation offset to use a uniform distribution

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_scale</td>
<td>Scales mutation across range of parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mutation_range</td>
<td>Set uniform offset control for discrete parameters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The *offset_uniform* type is an "offset" mutation that adds a 0-mean random variable with a uniform distribution to the existing coordinate value. The offset is limited in magnitude by *mutation_scale*.

For discrete design variables, *offset_uniform* is always used, and *mutation_range* controls the magnitude of the mutation.

*mutation_scale*

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- mutation_type
- offset_uniform
- mutation_scale

Scales mutation across range of parameter

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL
Description

The `mutation_scale` specifies a scale factor which scales continuous mutation offsets; this is a fraction of the total range of each dimension, so `mutation_scale` is a relative value between 0 and 1.

```
mutation_range
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **mutation_type**
- **offset_uniform**
- **mutation_range**

Set uniform offset control for discrete parameters

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

The `mutation_range` is used to control `offset_uniform` mutation used for discrete parameters. The replacement discrete value is the original value plus or minus an integer value up to `mutation_range`.

```
non_adaptive
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **coliny_ea**
- **mutation_type**
- **non_adaptive**

Disable self-adaptive mutation

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description
The SCOLIB EA method uses self-adaptive mutation, which modifies the mutation scale dynamically. This mechanism is borrowed from EAs like evolution strategies. The non_adaptive flag can be used to deactivate the self-adaptation, which may facilitate a more global search.

Note that non_adaptive is not recognized by Dakota as a valid keyword unless mutation_type has been specified.

constraint_penalty
- Keywords Area
  - method
  - coliny_ea
  - constraint_penalty

Multiplier for the penalty function

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REAL

Description
Most SCOLIB optimizers treat constraints with a simple penalty scheme that adds constraint_penalty times the sum of squares of the constraint violations to the objective function. The default value of constraint_penalty is 1000.0, except for methods that dynamically adapt their constraint penalty, for which the default value is 1.0.

solution_target
- Keywords Area
  - method
  - coliny_ea
  - solution_target

Stopping criteria based on objective function value

Specification
Alias: solution_accuracy
  Argument(s): REAL

Description
solution_target is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below solution_target.
seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The random **seed** control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If **seed** is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without **seed** specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**show_misc_options**

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_ea
- **show_misc_options**

Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
Description

All SCOLIB methods support the `show_misc_options` optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The `misc_options` optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

```
misc_options
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • coliny_ea
  • misc_options
```

Set method options not available through Dakota spec

Specification

Alias: none

```
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
```

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the `show_misc_options` optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The `misc_options` optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

```
model_pointer
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • coliny_ea
  • model_pointer
```

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SURT'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
        0.1 0.2 0.6
        sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SURT'
    surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
    sampling sample_type lhs
        samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'II'
```
variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = ’x1’ ’x2’

interface
id_interface = ’I1’
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = ’text_book’

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.44 coliny_beta

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_beta

(Experimental) Coliny beta solver

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_scolib
- package_coliny

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>beta_solver_name</td>
<td></td>
<td>Use an in-development SCOLIB solver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>solution_target</td>
<td></td>
<td>Stopping criteria based on objective function value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description
This method keyword allows testing of experimental (beta) Coliny (Scolib) optimization solvers during software development. It is intended primarily for developer use. Additional information on Coliny solvers is available at package_scolib.

### See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- `coliny_direct`
- `coliny_pattern_search`
- `coliny_cobyla`
- `coliny_ea`
- `coliny_solis_wets`

#### beta_solver_name

- Keywords Area
- method
- `coliny_beta`
- `beta_solver_name`

Use an in-development SCOLIB solver

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**
This is a means of accessing new methods in SCOLIB before they are exposed through the Dakota interface. Seek help from a Dakota or SCOLIB developer or a Dakota developer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>show_misc_options</th>
<th>Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>misc_options</td>
<td>Set method options not available through Dakota spec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

solution_target

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_beta
- solution_target

Stopping criteria based on objective function value

Specification

Alias: solution_accuracy

Argument(s): REAL

Description

solution_target is a termination criterion. The algorithm will terminate when the function value falls below solution_target.

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_beta
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

show_misc_options

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • coliny_beta
  • show_misc_options

Show algorithm parameters not exposed in Dakota input

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputing additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

misc_options

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • coliny_beta
  • misc_options

Set method options not available through Dakota spec

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

All SCOLIB methods support the show_misc_options optional specification which results in a dump of all the allowable method inputs. Note that the information provided by this command refers to optimizer parameters that are internal to SCOLIB, and which may differ from corresponding parameters used by the Dakota interface. The misc_options optional specification provides a means for inputting additional settings supported by the SCOLIB methods but which are not currently mapped through the Dakota input specification. Care must be taken in using this specification; they should only be employed by users familiar with the full range of parameter specifications available directly from SCOLIB and understand any differences that exist between those specifications and the ones available through Dakota.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- coliny_beta
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative. See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.45 nl2sol

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol

Trust-region method for nonlinear least squares

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- nonlinear_least_squares
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Absolute convergence tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
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<td>X-convergence tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>singular_conv_tol</td>
<td>Singular convergence tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>singular_radius</td>
<td>Singular radius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>false_conv_tol</td>
<td>False convergence tolerance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>initial_trust_radius</td>
<td>Initial trust region radius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>covariance</td>
<td>Determine how the final covariance matrix is computed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>regression_diagnostics</td>
<td>Turn on regression diagnostics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

NL2SOL is available as nl2sol and addresses unconstrained and bound-constrained least squares problems. It uses a trust-region method (and thus can be viewed as a generalization of the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm) and adaptively chooses between two Hessian approximations, the Gauss-Newton approximation alone and the Gauss-Newton approximation plus a quasi-Newton approximation to the rest of the Hessian. Even on small-residual problems, the latter Hessian approximation can be useful when the starting guess is far from the solution. On problems that are not over-parameterized (i.e., that do not involve more optimization variables than the data support), NL2SOL usually exhibits fast convergence.

Several internal NL2SOL convergence tolerances are adjusted in response to function_precision, which gives the relative precision to which responses are computed.

These tolerances may also be specified explicitly using:

- convergence_tolerance (NL2SOL’s rfctol)
- x_conv_tol (NL2SOL’s xctol)
• absolute_conv_tol (NL2SOL's afctol)
• singular_conv_tol (NL2SOL's sctol)
• false_conv_tol (NL2SOL's xftol)
• initial_trust_radius (NL2SOL's lmax0)

The internal NL2SOL defaults can be obtained for many of these controls by specifying the value -1. The internal
defaults are often functions of machine epsilon (as limited by function_precision).

Examples

An example of nl2sol is given below, and is discussed in the User’s Manual.

Note that in this usage of calibration_terms, the driver script rosenbrock, is returning "residuals", which
the nl2sol method is attempting to minimize. Another use case is to provide a data file, which Dakota will
attempt to match the model responses to. See calibration_data_file.

```plaintext
# Dakota Input File: rosen_opt_nls.in
environment
tabular_data
tabular_data_file = 'rosen_opt_nls.dat'
method
max_iterations = 100
convergence_tolerance = 1e-4
nl2sol
model
single
variables
continuous_design = 2
initial_point -1.2 1.0
lower_bounds -2.0 -2.0
upper_bounds 2.0 2.0
descriptors 'x1' "x2"
interface
analysis_driver = 'rosenbrock'
direct
responses
 calibration_terms = 2
   analytic_gradients
   no_hessians

Theory

NL2SOL has a variety of internal controls as described in AT&T Bell Labs CS TR 153 (http://cm.bell-labs.-
com/cm/cs/cstr/153.ps.gz). A number of existing Dakota controls (method independent controls and
responses controls) are mapped into these NL2SOL internal controls. In particular, Dakota’s convergence-
tolerance, max_iterations, max_function_evaluations, and fd_gradient_step_size are
mapped directly into NL2SOL’s rfctol, mxiter, mxfcal, and dltfdj controls, respectively. In addition,
Dakota’s fd_hessian_step_size is mapped into both delta0 and dltfdc, and Dakota’s output
verbosity is mapped into NL2SOL’s auxprt and outlev (for normal/verbose/debug output, N-
L2SOL prints initial guess, final solution, solution statistics, nondefault values, and changes to the active bound
6.2. METHOD

constraint set on every iteration; for quiet output, NL2SOL prints only the initial guess and final solution; and for silent output, NL2SOL output is suppressed).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- nlssol_sqp
- optpp_g_newton

function_precision

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- function_precision

Specify the maximum precision of the analysis code responses

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

The function_precision control provides the algorithm with an estimate of the accuracy to which the problem functions can be computed. This is used to prevent the algorithm from trying to distinguish between function values that differ by less than the inherent error in the calculation.

absolute_conv_tol

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- absolute_conv_tol

Absolute convergence tolerance

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
**Description**

`absolute_conv_tol (NL2SOL’s afctol)` is the absolute function convergence tolerance (stop when half the sum of squares is less than `absolute_conv_tol`, which is mainly of interest on zero-residual test problems).

The internal default is a function of machine epsilon (as limited by `function_precision`). The default is selected with a value of -1.

**x_conv_tol**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **nl2sol**
- **x_conv_tol**

X-convergence tolerance

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

`x_conv_tol` maps to the internal NL2SOL control `xctol`. It is the X-convergence tolerance (scaled relative accuracy of the solution variables).

The internal default is a function of machine epsilon (as limited by `function_precision`). The default is selected with a value of -1.

**singular_conv_tol**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **nl2sol**
- **singular_conv_tol**

Singular convergence tolerance

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL
6.2. METHOD

Description

\texttt{singular\_conv\_tol} (NL2SOL’s \texttt{sctol}) is the singular convergence tolerance, which works in conjunction with \texttt{singular\_radius} to test for underdetermined least-squares problems (stop when the relative reduction yet possible in the sum of squares appears less than \texttt{singular\_conv\_tol} for steps of scaled length at most \texttt{singular\_radius}).

The internal default is a function of machine epsilon (as limited by \texttt{function\_precision}). The default is selected with a value of -1.

\texttt{singular\_radius}

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- singular\_radius

Singular radius

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

Description

\texttt{singular\_radius} works in conjunction with \texttt{singular\_conv\_tol} to test for underdetermined least-squares problems (stop when the relative reduction yet possible in the sum of squares appears less than \texttt{singular\_conv\_tol} for steps of scaled length at most \texttt{singular\_radius}).

The internal default results in the internal use of steps of length 1. The default is selected with a value of -1.

\texttt{false\_conv\_tol}

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- false\_conv\_tol

False convergence tolerance

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL
**Description**

false_conv_tol (NL2SOL's xftol) is the false-convergence tolerance (stop with a suspicion of discontinuity when a more favorable stopping test is not satisfied and a step of scaled length at most false_conv_tol is not accepted).

The internal default is a function of machine epsilon (as limited by function_precision). The default is selected with a value of -1.

**initial_trust_radius**

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- initial_trust_radius

Initial trust region radius

**Description**

initial_trust_radius specification (NL2SOL's lmax0) specifies the initial trust region radius for the algorithm.

The internal default results in the internal use of steps of length 1. The default is selected with a value of -1.

**covariance**

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- covariance

Determine how the final covariance matrix is computed

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

covariance specification (NL2SOL's lmax0) specifies how the final covariance matrix is computed.
6.2. METHOD

Description

covariance (NL2SOL's covreq) specifies whether and how NL2SOL computes a final covariance matrix. The desired covariance approximation:

- 0 = default = none
- 1 or -1 ==> \( \sigma^2 H^{-1} J^T J H^{-1} \)
- 2 or -2 ==> \( \sigma^2 H^{-1} \)
- 3 or -3 ==> \( \sigma^2 (J^T J)^{-1} \)
- Negative values ==> estimate the final Hessian \( H \) by finite differences of function values only (using fd_hessian_step_size)
- Positive values ==> differences of gradients (using fd_hessian_step_size)

regression_diagnostics

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- regression_diagnostics

Turn on regression diagnostics

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

When regression_diagnostics (NL2SOL's rdreq) is specified and a positive-definite final Hessian approximation \( H \) is computed, NL2SOL computes and prints a regression diagnostic vector \( RD \) such that if omitting the \( i \)-th observation would cause alpha times the change in the solution that omitting the \( j \)-th observation would cause, then \( RD[i] = |alpha| RD[j] \). The finite-difference step-size tolerance affecting \( H \) is fd_step_size (NL2SOL's delta0 and dltfdc).

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- nl2sol
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
- Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples
```environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'
```
```method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative
```
```model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic
```
```method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2
```
```model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'
```
variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.46 nonlinear_cg

- Keywords Area
- method
- nonlinear_cg

(Experimental) nonlinear conjugate gradient optimization

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- local_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
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<td>misc_options</td>
<td>Options for nonlinear CG optimizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
This method is an incomplete experimental implementation of nonlinear conjugate gradient optimization, a local, gradient-based solver.
misc_options

- Keywords Area
- method
- nonlinear_cg
- misc_options

Options for nonlinear CG optimizer

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: STRINGLIST

**Description**

List of miscellaneous string options to pass to the experimental nonlinear CG solver (see NonlinearCGOptimizer.-cpp in the Dakota source code for available controls). Includes controls for step sizes, linesearch control, convergence, etc.

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- nonlinear_cg
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: STRING
Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SRR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
  response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                   0.1 0.2 0.6
                   0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SRR'
  surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.47 ncsu_direct

- Keywords Area
- method
- ncsu_direct

DIviding RECTangles method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- global_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required/Optional</th>
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<td>solution_target</td>
<td>Specifies a globally optimal value toward which the optimizer should track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>min_boxsize_limit</td>
<td>Stopping Criterion based on shortest edge of hyperrectangle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>volume_boxsize_limit</td>
<td>Stopping criterion based on volume of search space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
North Carolina State University (NCSU) has an implementation of the DIRECT algorithm (DIviding RECTangles algorithm that is outlined in the SCOLIB method section above). This version is documented in [[27] "Gablonsky, 2001"]. We have found that the NCSU DIRECT implementation works better and is more robust for some problems than coliny_direct. Currently, we maintain both versions of DIRECT in Dakota; in the future, we may deprecate one.
6.2. METHOD

The NCSU DIRECT method is selected with `ncsu_direct`. We have tried to maintain consistency between the keywords in SCOLIB and NCSU implementation of DIRECT, but the algorithms have different parameters, so the keywords sometimes have slightly different meaning.

Stopping Criteria
The algorithm stops based on:

1. `max_iterations` - number of iterations
2. `max_function_evaluations` - number of function evaluations
3. `solution_target` and `convergence_tolerance`
4. `min_boxsize_limit`
5. `volume_boxsize_limit`

This method will always strictly respect the number of iterations, but may slightly exceed the number of function evaluations, as it will always explore all sub-rectangles at the current level.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- `coliny_direct`

**solution_target**

- **Keywords Area**
- `method`
- `ncsu_direct`
- `solution_target`

Specifies a globally optimal value toward which the optimizer should track.

**Specification**

**Alias:** `solution_accuracy`

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The solution target specifies a goal toward which the optimizer should track.

This is used for test problems, when the true global minimum is known (call it `solution_target := fglobal`). Then, the optimization terminates when \( 100(f_{\text{min}}-fglobal)/\max(1,\abs{fglobal}) < \text{convergence\_tolerance} \). The default for fglobal is -1.0e100 and the default for convergence tolerance is described at `convergence\_tolerance`.
min_boxsize_limit

- Keywords Area
- method
- ncsu_direct
- min_boxsize_limit

Stopping Criterion based on shortest edge of hyperrectangle

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

min_boxsize_limit is a setting that terminates the optimization when the measure of a hyperrectangle S with f(c(S)) = fmin is less than min_boxsize_limit.

Each subregion considered by DIRECT has a size, which corresponds to the longest diagonal of the subregion. min_boxsize_limit specification terminates DIRECT if the size of the smallest subregion falls below this threshold.

In practice, this specification is likely to be more effective at limiting DIRECT’s search.

volume_boxsize_limit

- Keywords Area
- method
- ncsu_direct
- volume_boxsize_limit

Stopping criterion based on volume of search space

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* REAL

**Description**

volume_boxsize_limit is a setting that terminates the optimization when the volume of a hyperrectangle S with f(c(S)) = fmin is less than volume_boxsize_limit percent of the original hyperrectangle. Basically, volume_boxsize_limit stops the optimization when the volume of the particular rectangle which has fmin is less than a certain percentage of the whole volume.
6.2. METHOD

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- ncsu_direct
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
```
dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
method
id_method = ‘DACE’
    model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2
model
    id_model = ‘DACE_M’
single
    interface_pointer = ‘I1’
variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’
interface
    id_interface = ‘I1’
    system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = ‘text_book’
responses
    response_functions = 3
    no_gradients
    no_hessians

6.2.48 genie_opt_darts

- Keywords Area
- method
- genie_opt_darts

Voronoi-based high-dimensional global Lipschitzian optimization

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Description

OPT-Darts method is a fast alternative to DIRECT for global Lipschitzian optimization purposes. Instead of hyperrectangular, OPT-Darts decomposes a high-dimensional domain into Voronoi cells, and places samples via stochastic blue noise instead of deterministic cell division.

To refine a cell, OPT-Darts first adds a new sample within it via spoke-dart sampling, then set the conflict radius to the cells inscribed hypersphere radius, to avoid adding a sample point that is too close to a prior sample, then divide that cell (and update its neighboring cells) via the approximate Delaunay graph, and use the computed witnesses to decide the next refinement candidate. These two steps replace the corresponding deterministic center-sample and rectangular cell division in DIRECT, respectively.

OPT-Darts is the first exact stochastic Lipschitzian optimization technique that combines the benefits of guaranteed convergence in [Jones et al. 1993] and high dimensional efficiency in [Spall 2005]. Computing blue noise and Voronoi regions has been intractable in high dimensions, and are being done within OPT-Darts using Spoke-Darts.

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- genie_opt_darts
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- genie_opt_darts
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
```
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2
model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'
variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1', 'x2'
interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'
responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.49 genie_direct

- Keywords Area
- method
- genie_direct

Classical high-dimensional global Lipschitzian optimization

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

DIRECT (DIviding RECTangles) partitions the domain into hyperrectangles and uses an iterative Lipschitzian optimization approach to search for a global optimal point.

DIRECT begins by scaling the domain into the unit hypercube by adopting a center-sampling strategy. The objective function is evaluated at the midpoint of the domain, where a lower bound is constructed. In one-dimension, the domain is tri-sected and two new center points are sampled. At each iteration (dividing and sampling), DIRECT identifies intervals that contain the best minimal value of the objective function found up to that point. This strategy of selecting and dividing gives DIRECT its performance and convergence properties compared to other deterministic methods.

The classical DIRECT method [Shubert 1972] has two limitations: poor scaling to high dimensions; and relying on a global K; whose exact value is often unknown. The enhanced DIRECT algorithm [Jones et al. 1993] generalizes [Shubert 1972] to higher dimensions and does not require knowledge of the Lipschitz constant.

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- genie_direct
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
- If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
- If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
- If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
6.2. METHOD

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- genie_direct
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
               0.1 0.2 0.6
               0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
```
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.50 efficient_global

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global

Global Surrogate Based Optimization, a.k.a. EGO

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- global_optimization_methods
- surrogate_based_optimization_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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CASL-U-2015-0089-000
6.2. METHOD

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>gaussian_process</th>
<th>Gaussian Process surrogate model</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>use_derivatives</td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The Efficient Global Optimization (EGO) method was first developed by Jones, Schonlau, and Welch [[55] "Jones et al., 1998"]). In EGO, a stochastic response surface approximation for the objective function is developed based on some sample points from the “true” simulation.

Note that several major differences exist between our implementation and that of [[55] "Jones et al., 1998"]). First, rather than using a branch and bound method to find the point which maximizes the EIF, we use the DIRECT global optimization method.

Second, we support both global optimization and global nonlinear least squares as well as general nonlinear constraints through abstraction and subproblem recasting.

The efficient global method is in prototype form. Currently, we do not expose any specification controls for the underlying Gaussian process model used or for the optimization of the expected improvement function (which is currently performed by the NCSU DIRECT algorithm using its internal defaults).

By default, EGO uses the Surfpack GP (Kriging) model, but the Dakota implementation may be selected instead. If `use_derivatives` is specified the GP model will be built using available derivative data (Surfpack GP only).

**Theory**

The particular response surface used is a Gaussian process (GP). The GP allows one to calculate the prediction at a new input location as well as the uncertainty associated with that prediction. The key idea in EGO is to maximize the Expected Improvement Function (EIF). The EIF is used to select the location at which a new training point should be added to the Gaussian process model by maximizing the amount of improvement in the objective function that can be expected by adding that point. A point could be expected to produce an improvement in the objective function if its predicted value is better than the current best solution, or if the uncertainty in its prediction is such that the probability of it producing a better solution is high. Because the uncertainty is higher in regions of
the design space with few observations, this provides a balance between exploiting areas of the design space that predict good solutions, and exploring areas where more information is needed. EGO trades off this “exploitation vs. exploration.” The general procedure for these EGO-type methods is:

- Build an initial Gaussian process model of the objective function
- Find the point that maximizes the EIF. If the EIF value at this point is sufficiently small, stop.
- Evaluate the objective function at the point where the EIF is maximized. Update the Gaussian process model using this new point.
- Return to the previous step.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- surrogate_based_local
- surrogate_based_global

**gaussian_process**

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- gaussian_process

Gaussian Process surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** kriging

**Argument(s):** none

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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>surfpack</strong></td>
<td>Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the `surfpack` keyword. A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota.

For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.
6.2. METHOD

surfpack

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack.

Several user options are available:

1. Optimization methods:
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See optimization_method.
   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the max_trials keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the ”truth” model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. Trend Function:
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See trend.

3. Correlation Lengths:
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See correlation_lengths.

4. Ill-conditioning
   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.
   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.
   The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using
5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).

The `use_derivatives` keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).

See notes in the Theory section.

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here "inexpensive" means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

dakota

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- gaussian_process
- dakota

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes
6.2. METHOD

to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the gaussian_process dakota model can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a point_selection option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the point_selection option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

**use_derivatives**

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The use_derivatives flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

**import_points_file**

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING
### Description

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

### Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Optional | active_only | Import only active variables from tabular data file |
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding \( \text{num\_rows} \times \text{num\_cols} \) whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the `annotated` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```

```plaintext
freeform
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • efficient_global
  • import_points_file
  • freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `file_formats`

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

active_only

  Keywords Area
  method
  efficient_global
  import_points_file
  active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description
By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

`export_points_file`
- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- `export_points_file`

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Optional (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword annotated</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

`annotated`
- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- `export_points_file`
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
```
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated
```

```
freeform
```
- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- export_points_file
- freeform
  Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
```

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

model_pointer
- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_global
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
6.2. METHOD

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rnum rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rnum rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.51 polynomial_chaos

- Keywords Area
- method
- **polynomial_chaos**

Uncertainty quantification using polynomial chaos expansions

**Specification**

**Alias:** nond_polynomial_chaos  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>p_refinement</td>
<td>Automatic polynomial order refinement</td>
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<td>askey</td>
<td>Select the Askey basis polynomials that match the basis random variable</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>wiener</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use Hermite polynomial basis functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>quadrature_order</td>
<td>Cubature using tensor-products of Gaussian quadrature rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(Choose One)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sparse_grid_level</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Cubature using sparse grids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cubature_integrand</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cubature using Stroud rules and their extensions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expansion_order</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The maximum order of a polynomial expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orthogonal_least_interpolation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Build a polynomial chaos expansion from simulation samples using orthogonal least interpolation.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
## 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>import_expansion_file</th>
<th><strong>Build a Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE) by import coefficients and a multi-index from a file</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>variance_based_decomp</td>
<td>Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>diagonal_covariance</td>
<td>Display only the diagonal terms of the covariance matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>full_covariance</td>
<td>Display the full covariance matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>normalized</td>
<td>The normalized specification requests output of PCE coefficients that correspond to normalized orthogonal basis polynomials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sample_type</td>
<td>Selection of sampling strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>probability_refinement</td>
<td>Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Optional Keywords

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>export_expansion_-file</code></td>
<td>Export the coefficients and multi-index of a Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE) to a file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>fixed_seed</code></td>
<td>Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>reliability_levels</code></td>
<td>Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>response_levels</code></td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>distribution</code></td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>probability Levels</code></td>
<td>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gen_reliability_-levels</code></td>
<td>Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>rng</code></td>
<td>Selection of a random number generator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

The polynomial chaos expansion (PCE) is a general framework for the approximate representation of random response functions in terms of finite-dimensional series expansions in standardized random variables. The following provides details on the various polynomial chaos method options in Dakota.

Groups 1 and 2, plus the optional keywords \texttt{p.refinement} and \texttt{fixed.seed} relate to the specification of a PCE method. In addition, this method treats variables that are not aleatoric-uncertain different, despite the active keyword.

Group 3, and the remainder of the optional keywords relate to the output of the method.

\textbf{polynomial.chaos Group 1}

Group 1 keywords are used to select the type of basis, $\Psi_i$, of the expansion. Three approaches may be employed:

- Extended (default if no option is selected)
- Wiener
- Askey

The selection of Wiener versus Askey versus Extended is partially automated and partially under the user’s control.

- The Extended option is the default and supports only Gaussian correlations.
- If needed to support prescribed correlations (not under user control), the Extended and Askey options will fall back to the Wiener option \textit{on a per variable basis}. If the prescribed correlations are also unsupported by Wiener expansions, then Dakota will exit with an error.
- The Extended option avoids the use of any nonlinear variable transformations by augmenting the Askey approach with numerically-generated orthogonal polynomials for non-Askey probability density functions.
- Extended polynomial selections replace each of the sub-optimal Askey basis selections with numerically-generated polynomials that are orthogonal to the prescribed probability density functions (for bounded normal, lognormal, bounded lognormal, loguniform, triangular, gumbel, frechet, weibull, and bin-based histogram).

\textbf{polynomial.chaos Group 2}

To obtain the coefficients $\alpha_i$ of the expansion, six options are provided:

- multidimensional integration by a tensor-product of Gaussian quadrature rules (specified with \texttt{quadrature-order}, and, optionally, \texttt{dimension_preference}).
• multidimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with `sparse_grid_level`
    and, optionally, `dimension_preference`)
• multidimensional integration by Stroud cubature rules and extensions as specified with `cubature_integrand`.
• multidimensional integration by Latin hypercube sampling (specified with `expansion_samples`).
• linear regression (specified with either `collocation_points` or `collocation_ratio`).
• coefficient import from a file (specified with `import_expansion_file`). A total-order expansion is
    assumed and must be specified using `expansion_order`.

**Active Variables**
The default behavior is to form expansions over aleatory uncertain continuous variables. To form expansions
over a broader set of variables, one needs to specify `active` followed by `state`, `epistemic`, `design`, or
`all` in the variables specification block.

For continuous design, continuous state, and continuous epistemic uncertain variables included in the expan-
sion, Legendre chaos bases are used to model the bounded intervals for these variables. However, these variables
are not assumed to have any particular probability distribution, only that they are independent variables. More-
over, when probability integrals are evaluated, only the aleatory random variable domain is integrated, leaving
behind a polynomial relationship between the statistics and the remaining design/state/epistemic variables.

**polynomial_chaos Group 3**
These two keywords are used to specify how this method outputs the covariance of the responses.

**Optional Keywords regarding method outputs**
Each of these sampling specifications refer to sampling on the PCE approximation for the purposes of gener-
ating approximate statistics.

• `sample_type`
• `samples`
• `seed`
• `fixed_seed`
• `rng`
• `probability_refinement`
• `reliability_levels`
• `response_levels`
• `probability_levels`
• `gen_reliability_levels`

which should be distinguished from simulation sampling for generating the PCE coefficients as described in
options 4 and 5 above (although options 4 and 5 will share the `sample_type`, `seed`, and `rng` settings, if
provided).

When using the `probability_refinement` control, the number of refinement samples is not under the
user's control (these evaluations are approximation-based, so management of this expense is less critical). This
option allows for refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling.

**Multi-fidelity UQ**
6.2. METHOD

The advanced use case of multifidelity UQ automatically becomes active if the model selected for iteration by the method specification is a multifidelity surrogate model (see hierarchical). In this case, an expansion will first be formed for the model discrepancy (the difference between response results if additive correction or the ratio of results if multiplicative correction), using the first quadrature order or sparse-grid level value along with any specified refinement strategy. Second, an expansion will be formed for the low fidelity surrogate model, using the second quadrature order or sparse grid level value (if present; the first is reused if not present) along with any specified refinement strategy. Then the two expansions are combined (added or multiplied) into an expansion that approximates the high fidelity model, from which the final set of statistics are generated. For polynomial chaos expansions, this high fidelity expansion can differ significantly in form from the low fidelity and discrepancy expansions, particularly in the multiplicative case where it is expanded to include all of the basis products.

Theory

The polynomial chaos expansion (PCE) is a general framework for the approximate representation of random response functions in terms of finite-dimensional series expansions in standardized random variables

\[ R = \sum_{i=0}^{P} \alpha_i \Psi_i(\xi) \]

where \( \alpha_i \) is a deterministic coefficient, \( \Psi_i \) is a multidimensional orthogonal polynomial and \( \xi \) is a vector of standardized random variables. An important distinguishing feature of the methodology is that the functional relationship between random inputs and outputs is captured, not merely the output statistics as in the case of many nondeterministic methodologies. Dakota provides access to PCE methods through the NonDPolynomialChaos class. Refer to the Uncertainty Quantification Capabilities chapter of the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010" for additional information on the PCE algorithm.

If \( n \) is small (e.g., two or three), then tensor-product Gaussian quadrature is quite effective and can be the preferred choice. For moderate to large \( n \) (e.g., five or more), tensor-product quadrature quickly becomes too expensive and the sparse grid and regression approaches are preferred. Random sampling for coefficient estimation is generally not recommended due to its slow convergence rate. For incremental studies, approaches 4 and 5 support reuse of previous samples through the incremental_lhs and reuse_points specifications, respectively.

In the quadrature and sparse grid cases, growth rates for nested and non-nested rules can be synchronized for consistency. For a non-nested Gauss rule used within a sparse grid, linear one-dimensional growth rules of \( m = 2l + 1 \) are used to enforce odd quadrature orders, where \( l \) is the grid level and \( m \) is the number of points in the rule. The precision of this Gauss rule is then \( i = 2m - 1 = 4l + 1 \). For nested rules, order growth with level is typically exponential; however, the default behavior is to restrict the number of points to be the lowest order rule that is available that meets the one-dimensional precision requirement implied by either a level \( l \) for a sparse grid (\( i = 4l + 1 \)) or an order \( m \) for a tensor grid (\( i = 2m - 1 \)). This behavior is known as “restricted growth” or “delayed sequences.” To override this default behavior in the case of sparse grids, the unrestricted keyword can be used; it cannot be overridden for tensor grids using nested rules since it also provides a mapping to the available nested rule quadrature orders. An exception to the default usage of restricted growth is the dimension_adaptive_p_refinement generalized sparse grid case described previously, since the ability to evolve the index sets of a sparse grid in an unstructured manner eliminates the motivation for restricting the exponential growth of nested rules.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- adaptive_sampling
• gpais
• local_reliability
• global_reliability
• sampling
• importance_sampling
• stoch_collocation

**p_refinement**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_choas
- p_refinement

Automatic polynomial order refinement

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>uniform</em></td>
<td>Dim_adaptive</td>
<td></td>
<td>Perform automated expansion refinement by adapting to dimensions with higher ‘importance’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>adaptive</em></td>
<td>Dim_adaptive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `p_refinement` keyword specifies the usage of automated polynomial order refinement, which can be either `uniform` or `dimension_adaptive`.

The `dimension_adaptive` option is supported for the tensor-product quadrature and Smolyak sparse grid options and `uniform` is supported for tensor and sparse grids as well as regression approaches (collocation-points or collocation_ratio).

Each of these refinement cases makes use of the `max_iterations` and `convergence_tolerance` method independent controls. The former control limits the number of refinement iterations, and the latter control terminates refinement when the two-norm of the change in the response covariance matrix (or, in goal-oriented approaches, the two-norm of change in the statistical quantities of interest (QOI)) falls below the tolerance.
6.2. **METHOD**

The dimension adaptive case can be further specified to utilize sobol, decay, or generalized refinement controls. The former two cases employ anisotropic tensor/sparse grids in which the anisotropic dimension preference (leading to anisotropic integrations/expansions with differing refinement levels for different random dimensions) is determined using either total Sobol’ indices from variance-based decomposition (sobol case: high indices result in high dimension preference) or using spectral coefficient decay rates from a rate estimation technique similar to Richardson extrapolation (decay case: low decay rates result in high dimension preference). In these two cases as well as the uniform refinement case, the quadrature order or sparse_grid_level are ramped by one on each refinement iteration until either of the two convergence controls is satisfied. For the uniform refinement case with regression approaches, the expansion_order is ramped by one on each iteration while the oversampling ratio (either defined by collocation_ratio or inferred from collocation_points based on the initial expansion) is held fixed. Finally, the generalized dimension adaptive case is the default adaptive approach; it refers to the generalized sparse grid algorithm, a greedy approach in which candidate index sets are evaluated for their impact on the statistical QOI, the most influential sets are selected and used to generate additional candidates, and the index set frontier of a sparse grid is evolved in an unstructured and goal-oriented manner (refer to User’s Manual PCE descriptions for additional specifics).

For the case of p_refinement or the case of an explicit nested override, Gauss-Hermite rules are replaced with Genz-Keister nested rules and Gauss-Legendre rules are replaced with Gauss-Patterson nested rules, both of which exchange lower integrand precision for greater point reuse.

**uniform**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- polynomial_chaos
- p_refinement
- uniform

Refine an expansion uniformly in all dimensions.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The quadrature_order or sparse_grid_level are ramped by one on each refinement iteration until either of the two convergence controls is satisfied. For the uniform refinement case with regression approaches, the expansion_order is ramped by one on each iteration while the oversampling ratio (either defined by collocation_ratio or inferred from collocation_points based on the initial expansion) is held fixed.

**dimension_adaptive**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- polynomial_chaos
Perform automated expansion refinement by adapting to dimensions with higher ‘importance’.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>sobol</td>
<td>Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **sobol**
  - Use spectral coefficient decay rates from a rate estimation technique similar to Richardson extrapolation to control dimension refinement.

- **generalized**
  - Use the generalized sparse grid dimension adaptive algorithm to refine a sparse grid approximation of polynomial expansion.

**Description**

Perform automated expansion refinement by adapting to dimensions with higher ‘importance’. Dimension_adaptive refinement can be further specified as either sobol or generalized (decay not supported). Each of these automated refinement approaches makes use of the max_iterations and convergence_tolerance iteration controls.

- **sobol**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **polynomial_chaos**
6.2. **METHOD**

- `p_refinement`
- `dimension_adaptive`
- `sobol`

Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE. High indices result in high dimension preference.

- `decay`
  - **Keywords Area**
  - `method`
  - `polynomial_chaos`
  - `p_refinement`
  - `dimension_adaptive`
  - `decay`

Use spectral coefficient decay rates from a rate estimation technique similar to Richardson extrapolation to control dimension refinement.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use spectral coefficient decay rates from a rate estimation technique similar to Richardson extrapolation to control dimension refinement. Low decay rates result in high dimension preference.
Use the generalized sparse grid dimension adaptive algorithm to refine a sparse grid approximation of polynomial expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The generalized sparse grid algorithm is a greedy approach in which candidate index sets are evaluated for their impact on the statistical QOI, the most influential sets are selected and used to generate additional candidates, and the index set frontier of a sparse grid is evolved in an unstructured and goal-oriented manner (refer to User’s Manual PCE descriptions for additional specifics).

Select the Askey basis polynomials that match the basis random variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The Askey option employs an extended basis of Hermite, Legendre, Laguerre, Jacobi, and generalized Laguerre orthogonal polynomials.

- Askey polynomial selections include Hermite for normal (optimal) as well as bounded normal, lognormal, bounded lognormal, gumbel, frechet, and weibull (sub-optimal); Legendre for uniform (optimal) as well as loguniform, triangular, and bin-based histogram (sub-optimal); Laguerre for exponential (optimal); Jacobi for beta (optimal); and generalized Laguerre for gamma (optimal).
6.2. METHOD

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- wiener

wiener

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- wiener

Use Hermite polynomial basis functions

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The Wiener option uses a Hermite orthogonal polynomial basis for all random variables and employs the same nonlinear variable transformation as the local and global reliability methods (and therefore has the same variable support).

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- askey

quadrature_order

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- quadrature_order

Cubature using tensor-products of Gaussian quadrature rules

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
### Description

Multidimensional integration by a tensor-product of Gaussian quadrature rules (specified with `quadrature-order`, and, optionally, `dimension_preference`). The default rule selection is to employ `non_nested` Gauss rules including Gauss-Hermite (for normals or transformed normals), Gauss-Legendre (for uniforms or transformed uniforms), Gauss-Jacobi (for betas), Gauss-Laguerre (for exponentials), generalized Gauss-Laguerre (for gammas), and numerically-generated Gauss rules (for other distributions when using an Extended basis).

For the case of `p_refinement` or the case of an explicit `nested` override, Gauss-Hermite rules are replaced with Genz-Keister nested rules and Gauss-Legendre rules are replaced with Gauss-Patterson nested rules, both of which exchange lower integrand precision for greater point reuse. By specifying a `dimension_preference`, where higher preference leads to higher order polynomial resolution, the tensor grid may be rendered anisotropic. The dimension specified to have highest preference will be set to the specified `quadrature_order` and all other dimensions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference; any non-integral portion is truncated.

To synchronize with tensor-product integration, a tensor-product expansion is used, where the order \( p_i \) of the expansion in each dimension is selected to be half of the integrand precision available from the rule in use, rounded down. In the case of non-nested Gauss rules with integrand precision \( 2m_i - 1 \), \( p_i \) is one less than the quadrature order \( m_i \) in each dimension (a one-dimensional expansion contains the same number of terms, \( p + 1 \), as the number of Gauss points). The total number of terms, \( N \), in a tensor-product expansion involving \( n \) uncertain input variables is

\[
N = 1 + \prod_{i=1}^{n} (p_i + 1)
\]

In some advanced use cases (e.g., multifidelity UQ), multiple grid resolutions can be employed; for this reason, the `quadrature_order` specification supports an array input.

#### `dimension_preference`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **quadrature_order**
- **dimension_preference**

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension). Using this specification leads to anisotropic integrations with differing refinement levels for different random dimensions.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- sobol
- decay

**nested**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- quadrature_order
- nested

Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available. For instance if the aleatory variables are Gaussian use the Nested Genz-Keister rule instead of the default non-nested Gauss-Hermite rule variables are

**non_nested**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- quadrature_order
- non_nested

Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules if available. For instance if the aleatory variables are Gaussian use the non-nested Gauss-Hermite rule

sparse_grid_level

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_choas
- sparse_grid_level

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when peforming sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required-/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>restricted</td>
<td></td>
<td>unrestricted</td>
<td>Overide the default restriction of growth rates for nested and non-nested rules that are by defualt synchronized for consistency.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional (Choose One)</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th>dimension_preference</th>
<th>A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>nested</td>
<td>Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

### restricted

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sparse_grid_level
- restricted

Restrict the growth rates for nested and non-nested rules can be synchronized for consistency.

### Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

In the quadrature and sparse grid cases, growth rates for nested and non-nested rules can be synchronized for consistency. For a non-nested Gauss rule used within a sparse grid, linear one-dimensional growth rules of \( m = 2l + 1 \) are used to enforce odd quadrature orders, where \( l \) is the grid level and \( m \) is the number of points in the rule. The precision of this Gauss rule is then \( i = 2m - 1 = 4l + 1 \). For nested rules, order growth with level is typically exponential; however, the default behavior is to restrict the number of points to be the lowest order rule that is available that meets the one-dimensional precision requirement implied by either a level \( l \) for a sparse grid (\( i = 4l + 1 \)) or an order \( m \) for a tensor grid (\( i = 2m - 1 \)). This behavior is known as "restricted growth" or "delayed sequences." To override this default behavior in the case of sparse grids, the unrestricted keyword can be used; it cannot be overridden for tensor grids using nested rules since it also provides a mapping to the available nested rule quadrature orders. An exception to the default usage of restricted growth is the dimension adaptive p-refinement generalized sparse grid case described previously, since the ability to evolve the index sets of a sparse grid in an unstructured manner eliminates the motivation for restricting the exponential growth of nested rules.

unrestricted

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sparse_grid_level
- unrestricted

Override the default restriction of growth rates for nested and non-nested rules that are by default synchronized for consistency.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

In the quadrature and sparse grid cases, growth rates for nested and non-nested rules can be synchronized for consistency. For a non-nested Gauss rule used within a sparse grid, linear one-dimensional growth rules of \( m = 2l + 1 \) are used to enforce odd quadrature orders, where \( l \) is the grid level and \( m \) is the number of points in the rule. The precision of this Gauss rule is then \( i = 2m - 1 = 4l + 1 \). For nested rules, order growth with level is typically exponential; however, the default behavior is to restrict the number of points to be the lowest order rule that is available that meets the one-dimensional precision requirement implied by either a level \( l \) for a sparse grid (\( i = 4l + 1 \)) or an order \( m \) for a tensor grid (\( i = 2m - 1 \)). This behavior is known as "restricted growth" or "delayed sequences." To override this default behavior in the case of sparse grids, the unrestricted keyword can be used; it cannot be overridden for tensor grids using nested rules since it also provides a mapping to the available nested rule quadrature orders. An exception to the default usage of restricted growth is the dimension adaptive p-refinement generalized sparse grid case described previously, since the ability to evolve the index sets of a sparse grid in an unstructured manner eliminates the motivation for restricting the exponential growth of nested rules.
6.2. METHOD

dimension_preference

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sparse_grid_level
- dimension_preference

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension). Using this specification leads to anisotropic integrations with differing refinement levels for different random dimensions.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- sobol
- decay

nested

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sparse_grid_level
- nested

Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available. For instance if the aleatory variables are Gaussian use the Nested Genz-Keister rule instead of the default non-nested Gauss-Hermite rule variables are
non_nested

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sparse_grid_level
- non_nested

Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules if available. For instance if the aleatory variables are Gaussian use the non-nested Gauss-Hermite rule

**cubature_integrand**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- cubature_integrand

Cubature using Stroud rules and their extensions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by Stroud cubature rules [[78] "Stroud, 1971"] and extensions [[91] "Xiu, 2008"], as specified with cubature_integrand. A total-order expansion is used, where the isotropic order $p$ of the expansion is half of the integrand order, rounded down. The total number of terms $N$ for an isotropic total-order expansion of order $p$ over $n$ variables is given by

$$N = 1 + P = 1 + \sum_{s=1}^{P} \frac{1}{s!} \prod_{r=0}^{s-1} (n + r) = \frac{(n + p)!}{n!p!}$$

Since the maximum integrand order is currently five for normal and uniform and two for all other types, at most second- and first-order expansions, respectively, will be used. As a result, cubature is primarily useful for global
sensitivity analysis, where the Sobol’ indices will provide main effects and, at most, two-way interactions. In addition, the random variable set must be independent and identically distributed (iid), so the use of askey or wiener transformations may be required to create iid variable sets in the transformed space (as well as to allow usage of the higher order cubature rules for normal and uniform). Note that global sensitivity analysis often assumes uniform bounded regions, rather than precise probability distributions, so the iid restriction would not be problematic in that case.

**expansion_order**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **expansion_order**

The maximum order of a polynomial expansion

### Specification

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>dimension_preference</td>
<td>A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>basis_type</td>
<td>Specify the type of truncation to be used with a Polynomial Chaos Expansion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required(Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>collocation_points</td>
<td>Specify the number of collocation points used to estimate PCE coefficients using regression or orthogonal-least-interpolation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| | | **collocation_ratio** | Set the number of points used to build a PCE via regression to be proportional to the number of terms in the expansion. |
| | | **expansion_samples** | The Number simulation samples to estimate the PCE coefficients |
| Optional | | **import_points_file** | File containing variable values and corresponding responses |

**Description**

Multidimensional integration by Latin hypercube sampling (specified with `expansion_samples`). In this case, the expansion order $p$ cannot be inferred from the numerical integration specification and it is necessary to provide an `expansion_order` to specify $p$ for a total-order expansion.

Linear regression (specified with either `collocation_points` or `collocation_ratio`). A total-order expansion is used and must be specified using `expansion_order` as described in the previous option. To avoid requiring the user to calculate $N$ from $n$ and $p$), the `collocation_ratio` allows for specification of a constant factor applied to $N$ (e.g., `collocation_ratio = 2.` produces samples = $2N$). In addition, the default linear relationship with $N$ can be overridden using a real-valued exponent specified using `ratio_order`. In this case, the number of samples becomes $cN^o$ where $c$ is the `collocation_ratio` and $o$ is the `ratio_order`. The `use_derivatives` flag informs the regression approach to include derivative matching equations (limited to gradients at present) in the least squares solutions, enabling the use of fewer collocation points for a given expansion order and dimension (number of points required becomes $\frac{N!}{(N-p)!}$). When admissible, a constrained least squares approach is employed in which response values are first reproduced exactly and error in reproducing response derivatives is minimized. Two collocation grid options are supported: the default is Latin hypercube sampling ("point collocation"), and an alternate approach of "probabilistic collocation" is also available through inclusion of the `tensor_grid` keyword. In this alternate case, the collocation grid is defined using a subset of tensor-product quadrature points: the order of the tensor-product grid is selected as one more than the expansion order in each dimension (to avoid sampling at roots of the basis polynomials) and then the tensor multi-index is uniformly sampled to generate a non-repeated subset of tensor quadrature points.

If `collocation_points` or `collocation_ratio` is specified, the PCE coefficients will be determined by regression. If no regression specification is provided, appropriate defaults are defined. Specifically SVD-based least-squares will be used for solving over-determined systems and under-determined systems will be solved using LASSO. For the situation when the number of function values is smaller than the number of terms in a PCE, but the total number of samples including gradient values is greater than the number of terms, the resulting over-determined system will be solved using equality constrained least squares. Technical information on the various methods listed below can be found in the Linear regression section of the Theory Manual. Some of the regression methods (OMP, LASSO, and LARS) are able to produce a set of possible PCE coefficient vectors (see the Linear regression section in the Theory Manual). If cross validation is inactive, then only one solution, consistent with the `noise_tolerance`, will be returned. If cross validation is active, Dakota will choose between possible coefficient vectors found internally by the regression method across the set of expansion orders (1,...,`expansion_order`) and the set of specified noise tolerances and return the one with the lowest cross validation error.
6.2. *METHOD*

validation error indicator.

**dimension_preference**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- dimension_preference

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension). Using this specification leada to anisotropic integrations with differing refinement levels for different random dimensions.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- sobol
- decay

**basis_type**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- basis_type

Specify the type of truncation to be used with a Polynomial Chaos Expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required <em>(Choose One)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>tensor_product</td>
<td>Use a tensor-product index set to construct a polynomial chaos expansion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>total_order</td>
<td>Use a total-order index set to construct a polynomial chaos expansion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>adapted</td>
<td>Use adaptive basis selection to choose the basis terms in a polynomial chaos expansion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Specify the type of truncation to be used with a Polynomial Chaos Expansion.

- **tensor_product**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **polynomial_chaos**
  - **expansion_order**
  - **basis_type**
  - **tensor_product**

Use a tensor-product index set to construct a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**

Use a tensor-product index set to construct a polynomial chaos expansion. That is for a given order $p$ keep all terms with $d$-dimensional multi index $i = (i_1, \ldots, i_d)$ that satisfies

$$\max (i_1, \ldots, i_d) \leq p$$
6.2. METHOD

**total_order**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- basis_type
- total_order

Use a total-order index set to construct a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use the traditional total-order index set to construct a polynomial chaos expansion. That is for a given order $p$ keep all terms with a $d$-dimensional multi index $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, \ldots, i_d)$ that satisfies

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{d} i_k \leq p
$$

**adapted**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- basis_type
- adapted

Use adaptive basis selection to choose the basis terms in a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword | Description |
| Optional   | Group          |               |               |             |
| Optional   | advancements   |               |               | The maximum number of steps used to expand a basis step. |
| Optional   | soft_convergence_limit |               |               | The maximum number of times no improvement in cross validation error is allowed before the algorithm is terminated. |

**Description**

Use adaptive basis selection to choose the basis terms in a polynomial chaos expansion. Basis selection uses compressed sensing to identify an initial set of non zero PCE coefficients. Then these non-zero terms are expanded a set number of times (we suggest 3) and compressed sensing is then applied to these three new index sets. Cross validation is used to choose the best candidate basis. The best basis is then restricted again to the non-zero terms and expanded until no improvement can be gained by adding additional terms.

- advancements
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
  - expansion_order
  - basis_type
  - adapted
  - advancements

The maximum number of steps used to expand a basis step.

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

**Description**

Use adaptive basis selection to choose the basis terms in a polynomial chaos expansion. Basis selection uses compressed sensing to identify an initial set of non zero PCE coefficients. Then these non-zero terms are expanded a set number of times (we suggest 3) and compressed sensing is then applied to these three new index sets. Cross validation is used to choose the best candidate basis. The best basis is then restricted again to the non-zero terms and expanded until no improvement can be gained by adding additional terms.
6.2. METHOD

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- adapted

  soft_convergence_limit

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- basis_type
- adapted
- soft_convergence_limit

The maximum number of times no improvement in cross validation error is allowed before the algorithm is terminated.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

Use adaptive basis selection to choose the basis terms in a polynomial chaos expansion. Basis selection uses compressed sensing to identify an initial set of non zero PCE coefficients. Then these non-zero terms are expanded a set number of times (we suggest 3) and compressed sensing is then applied to these three new index sets. Cross validation is used to choose the best candidate basis. The best basis is then restricted again to the non-zero terms and expanded until no improvement can be gained by adding additional terms.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- adapted

collocation_points

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points

Specify the number of collocation points used to estimate PCE coefficients using regression or orthogonal-least-interpolation.
## Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>ratio_order</td>
<td>Specify a non-linear the relationship between the expansion order of a polynomial chaos expansion and the number of samples that will be used to compute the PCE coefficients. Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>least_squares</td>
<td>Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>orthogonal_matching_pursuit</td>
<td>Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit $\ell_1$-minimization problem using linear programming.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>basis_pursuit_denoising</strong></td>
<td>Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit Denoising $\ell_1$-minimization problem using second order cone optimization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>least_angle_regression</strong></td>
<td>Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the greedy least angle regression (LAR) method.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>least_absolute_shrinkage</strong></td>
<td>Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the LASSO problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>optional_cross_validation</strong></td>
<td>Use cross validation to choose the 'best' polynomial order of a polynomial chaos expansion. Use derivative data to construct surrogate models.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>optional_use_derivatives</strong></td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>optional_tensor_grid</strong></td>
<td>Use sub-sampled tensor-product quadrature points to build a polynomial chaos expansion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Optional | reuse_points | This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models.

### Description

Specify the number of collocation points used to estimate PCE coefficients using regression or orthogonal-least-interpolation.

**ratio_order**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **expansion_order**
- **collocation_points**
- **ratio_order**

Specify a non-linear the relationship between the expansion order of a polynomial chaos expansion and the number of samples that will be used to compute the PCE coefficients.

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

### Description

When using regression type methods (specified with either collocation_points or collocation_ratio), a total-order expansion can be specified using expansion_order. To avoid requiring the user to calculate $N$ from $n$ and $p$), the collocation_ratio allows for specification of a constant factor applied to $N$ (e.g., collocation_ratio = 2, produces samples $= 2N$). In addition, the default linear relationship with $N$ can be overridden using a real-valued exponent specified using ratio_order. In this case, the number of samples becomes $cN^o$ where $c$ is the collocation_ratio and $o$ is the ratio_order.

**least_squares**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **expansion_order**
- **collocation_points**
6.2. METHOD

- least_squares

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Optional (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>svd</td>
<td>Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using the singular value decomposition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares. Specifically SVD-based least-squares will be used for solving over-determined systems. For the situation when the number of function values is smaller than the number of terms in a PCE, but the total number of samples including gradient values is greater than the number of terms, the resulting over-determined system will be solved using equality constrained least squares

**svd**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- least_squares
- svd

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using the singular value decomposition.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
**Description**

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using the singular value decomposition. When the number of model runs exceeds the number of terms in the PCE, the solution returned will be the least-squares solution, otherwise the solution will be the minimum norm solution computed using the pseudo-inverse.

- **equality_constrained**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_\text{chaos}
  - expansion_\text{order}
  - collocation_\text{points}
  - least_\text{squares}
  - equality_\text{constrained}

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using equality constrained least squares.

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using equality constrained least squares.

- **orthogonal\_matching\_pursuit**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_\text{chaos}
  - expansion_\text{order}
  - collocation_\text{points}
  - orthogonal\_matching\_pursuit

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP)

**Specification**

Alias: omp  
Argument(s): none
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP). Orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP) is a greedy algorithm that is useful when solving underdetermined linear systems.

- **noise_tolerance**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
  - expansion_order
  - collocation_points
  - orthogonal_matching_pursuit
  - noise_tolerance

  The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

#### Specification

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: REALLIST

#### Description

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

- **basis_pursuit**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
  - expansion_order
  - collocation_points
  - basis_pursuit

  Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit $\ell_1$-minimization problem using linear programming.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: bp
  Argument(s): none

Description

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit $\ell_1$-minimization problem using linear programming.

basis_pursuit_denoising
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • polynomial_chaos
  • expansion_order
  • collocation_points
  • basis_pursuit_denoising

  Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit Denoising $\ell_1$-minimization problem using second order cone optimization.

Specification

Alias: bpdn
  Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td>The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit Denoising $\ell_1$-minimization problem using second order cone optimization.

noise_tolerance
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • polynomial_chaos
6.2. METHOD

- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- basis_pursuit_denoising
- noise_tolerance

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALIST

**Description**

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

**least_angle_regression**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial Chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- least_angle_regression

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the greedy least angle regression (LAR) method.

**Specification**

**Alias:** lars

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

**Description**

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the greedy least angle regression (LAR) method.
noise_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- least_angle_regression
- noise_tolerance

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

least_absolute_shrinkage

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- least_absolute_shrinkage

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the LASSO problem.

**Specification**

**Alias:** lasso

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. **METHOD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td><strong>l2_penal</strong>ty</td>
<td>The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors. The $l_2$ penalty used when performing compressed sensing with elastic net.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the LASSO problem.

- `noise_tolerance`
  - **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
  - expansion_order
  - collocation_points
  - least_absolute_shrinkage
  - `noise_tolerance`

  The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s):* REALLIST

**Description**

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

- `l2_penalty`
  - **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
• expansion_order

• collocation_points

• least_absolute_shrinkage

• l2_penalty

The $l_2$ penalty used when performing compressed sensing with elastic net.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The $l_2$ penalty used when performing compressed sensing with elastic net.

**cross_validation**

• Keywords Area

• method

• polynomial_choas

• expansion_order

• collocation_points

• cross_validation

Use cross validation to choose the 'best' polynomial order of a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use cross validation to choose the 'best' polynomial degree of a polynomial chaos expansion. 10 fold cross validation is used to estimate the cross validation error of a total-order polynomial expansion for orders 1 through to order. The order chosen is the one that produces the lowest cross validation error. If there are not enough points to perform 10 fold cross validation then one-at-a-time cross validation will be performed.
6.2. METHOD

use_derivatives

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

The `use_derivatives` flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process). However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

tensor_grid

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- tensor_grid

Use sub-sampled tensor-product quadrature points to build a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

The collocation grid is defined using a subset of tensor-product quadrature points: the order of the tensor-product grid is selected as one more than the expansion order in each dimension (to avoid sampling at roots of the basis polynomials) and then the tensor multi-index is uniformly sampled to generate a non-repeated subset of tensor quadrature points.
reuse_points

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_points
- reuse_points

This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models.

**Specification**

**Alias:** reuse_samples

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `reuse_points` option controls the reuse behavior of points for various types of polynomial chaos expansions, including: `collocation_points`, `collocation_ratio`, `expansion_samples`, or `orthogonal_least_interpolation`. If any of these approaches are specified to create a set of points for the polynomial chaos expansion, one can specify `reuse_points` so that any points that have been previously generated (for example, from the `import_points` file) can be reused.

**collocation_ratio**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio

Set the number of points used to build a PCE via regression to be proportional to the number of terms in the expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### 6.2. METHOD

**Optional**

**ratio_order**
Specify a non-linear the relationship between the expansion order of a polynomial chaos expansion and the number of samples that will be used to compute the PCE coefficients. Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares.

**least_squares**
Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares.

**orthogonal_matching_pursuit**
Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP).

**basis_pursuit**
Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit $\ell_1$-minimization problem using linear programming.

**basis_pursuit_denoising**
Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit Denoising $\ell_1$-minimization problem using second order cone optimization.
| **least_angle-regression** | Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the greedy least angle regression (LAR) method. |
| **least_absolute-shrinkage** | Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the LASSO problem. |

**Optional** | **cross_validation** | Use cross validation to choose the ‘best’ polynomial order of a polynomial chaos expansion. Use derivative data to construct surrogate models. |

**Optional** | **use_derivatives** | Use sub-sampled tensor-product quadrature points to build a polynomial chaos expansion. This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models. |

**Optional** | **tensor_grid** |

**Optional** | **reuse_points** |

**Description**

Set the number of points used to build a PCE via regression to be proportional to the number of terms in the expansion. To avoid requiring the user to calculate N from n and p, the collocation_ratio allows for specification of a constant factor applied to N (e.g., collocation_ratio = 2. produces samples = 2N). In addition, the default linear relationship with N can be overridden using a real-valued exponent specified using ratio_order. In this case, the number of samples becomes \( cN^o \) where \( c \) is the collocation_ratio and \( o \) is the ratio_order. The use_derivatives flag informs the regression approach to include derivative matching equations (limited to gradients at present) in the least squares solutions, enabling the use of fewer collocation points for a given expansion order and dimension (number of points required becomes \( \frac{cN^o}{n+1} \)).

**ratio_order**

- **Keywords Area**
6.2. METHOD

- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- ratio_order

Specify a non-linear the relationship between the expansion order of a polynomial chaos expansion and the number of samples that will be used to compute the PCE coefficients.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**
When using regression type methods (specified with either collocation_points or collocation_ratio), a total-order expansion can be specified using expansion_order. To avoid requiring the user to calculate \( N \) from \( n \) and \( p \), the collocation_ratio allows for specification of a constant factor applied to \( N \) (e.g., collocation_ratio = 2. produces samples = 2N). In addition, the default linear relationship with \( N \) can be overridden using a real-valued exponent specified using ratio_order. In this case, the number of samples becomes \( cN^{o} \) where \( c \) is the collocation_ratio and \( o \) is the ratio_order.

**least_squares**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- least_squares

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none
Optional (Choose One)  Group 1  svd  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using least squares. Specifically SVD-based least-squares will be used for solving over-determined systems. For the situation when the number of function values is smaller than the number of terms in a PCE, but the total number of samples including gradient values is greater than the number of terms, the resulting over-determined system will be solved using equality constrained least squares.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| svd |  
| Keywords Area |  
| method |  
| polynomial_chaos |  
| expansion_order |  
| collocation_ratio |  
| least_squares |  
| svd |  

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using the singular value decomposition.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using the singular value decomposition. When the number of model runs exceeds the number of terms in the PCE, the solution returned will be the least-squares solution, otherwise the solution will be the minimum norm solution computed using the pseudo-inverse.
Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using equality constrained least squares.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Calculate the coefficients of a polynomial chaos expansion using equality constrained least squares.

**orthogonal_matching_pursuit**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- least_squares
- equality_constrained

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP)

**Specification**

**Alias:** omp

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td>The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion using orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP). Orthogonal matching pursuit (OMP) is a greedy algorithm that is useful when solving underdetermined linear systems.

\texttt{noise\_tolerance}

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial\_chaos
- expansion\_order
- collocation\_ratio
- orthogonal\_matching\_pursuit
- noise\_tolerance

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

\texttt{basis\_pursuit}

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial\_chaos
- expansion\_order
- collocation\_ratio
- basis\_pursuit

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit $\ell_1$-minimization problem using linear programming.

Specification

Alias: bp

Argument(s): none
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**
Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit $\ell_1$-minimization problem using linear programming.

```plaintext
basis_pursuit_denoising
- Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_choa
  - expansion_order
  - collocation_ratio
  - basis_pursuit_denoising
```

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit Denoising $\ell_1$-minimization problem using second order cone optimization.

**Specification**

**Alias**: bpdn  
**Argument(s)**: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td>The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by solving the Basis Pursuit Denoising $\ell_1$-minimization problem using second order cone optimization.

```plaintext
noise_tolerance
- Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_choa
  - expansion_order
  - collocation_ratio
  - basis_pursuit_denoising
  - noise_tolerance
```

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Description

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

least_angle_regression

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- least_angle_regression

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the greedy least angle regression (LAR) method.

Specification

Alias: lars

Description

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the greedy least angle regression (LAR) method.

noise_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
6.2. METHOD

- least_angle_regression
- noise_tolerance

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

least_absolute_shrinkage

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_choas
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- least_absolute_shrinkage

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the LASSO problem.

Specification

Alias: lasso
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>noise_tolerance</td>
<td></td>
<td>The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

Compute the coefficients of a polynomial expansion by using the LASSO problem.

```plaintext
noise_tolerance
- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- least_absolute_shrinkage
- noise_tolerance
```

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

### Description

The noise tolerance used when performing cross validation in the presence of noise or truncation errors.

```plaintext
l2_penalty
- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- least_absolute_shrinkage
- noise_tolerance
```

The $l_2$ penalty used when performing compressed sensing with elastic net.
6.2. METHOD

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The \( l_2 \) penalty used when performing compressed sensing with elastic net.

```
cross_validation
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- cross_validation

Use cross validation to choose the 'best' polynomial order of a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use cross validation to choose the 'best' polynomial degree of a polynomial chaos expansion. 10 fold cross validation is used to estimate the cross validation error of a total-order polynomial expansion for orders 1 through to order. The order chosen is the one that produces the lowest cross validation error. If there are not enough points to perform 10 fold cross validation then one-at-a-time cross validation will be performed.

```
use_derivatives
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- collocation_ratio
- use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
The use_derivatives flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).
  However, its use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

tensor_grid
  * Keywords Area
  * method
  * polynomial_chaos
  * expansion_order
  * collocation_ratio
  * tensor_grid

Use sub-sampled tensor-product quadrature points to build a polynomial chaos expansion.

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
The collocation grid is defined using a subset of tensor-product quadrature points: the order of the tensor-product grid is selected as one more than the expansion order in each dimension (to avoid sampling at roots of the basis polynomials) and then the tensor multi-index is uniformly sampled to generate a non-repeated subset of tensor quadrature points.

reuse_points
  * Keywords Area
  * method
  * polynomial_chaos
  * expansion_order
  * collocation_ratio
  * reuse_points

This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models.
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: reuse_samples
Argument(s): none

Description

The reuse_points option controls the reuse behavior of points for various types of polynomial chaos expansions, including: collocation_points, collocation_ratio, expansion_samples, or orthogonal_least_interpolation. If any of these approaches are specified to create a set of points for the polynomial chaos expansion, one can specify reuse_points so that any points that have been previously generated (for example, from the import_points file) can be reused.

expansion_samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- expansion_samples

The Number simulation samples to estimate the PCE coefficients

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>reuse_points</td>
<td>This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models. Augments an existing Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>incremental_lhs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The Number simulation samples to estimate the PCE coefficients In this case, the expansion order p cannot be inferred from the numerical integration specification and it is necessary to provide an expansion_order to specify p for a total-order expansion.
**reuse_points**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- expansion_samples
- reuse_points

This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models.

**Specification**

**Alias:** reuse_samples

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `reuse_points` option controls the reuse behavior of points for various types of polynomial chaos expansions, including: `collocation_points`, `collocation_ratio`, `expansion_samples`, or `orthogonal_least_interpolation`. If any of these approaches are specified to create a set of points for the polynomial chaos expansion, one can specify `reuse_points` so that any points that have been previously generated (for example, from the `import_points` file) can be reused.

**incremental_lhs**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- expansion_samples
- incremental_lhs

Augments an existing Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description

incremental_lhs will augment an existing LHS sampling study with more samples to get better estimates of mean, variance, and percentiles. The number of samples in the second set MUST currently be 2 times the number of previous samples, although incremental sampling based on any power of two may be supported in future releases.

Default Behavior

Incremental Latin Hypercube Sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the incremental_lhs keyword must be specified in conjunction with the sample_type keyword. Additionally, a previous LHS (or incremental LHS) sampling study with sample size \(N\) must have already been performed, and the dakota restart file must be available from this previous study. The variables and responses specifications must be the same in both studies.

Usage Tips

The incremental approach is useful if it is uncertain how many simulations can be completed within available time.

See the examples below and the Usage and Restarting Dakota Studies pages.

Examples

For example, say a user performs an initial study using lhs as the sample_type, and generates 10 samples.

One way to ensure the restart file is saved is to specify a non-default name, via a command line option:

```
dakota -i LHS_10.in -w LHS_10.rst
```

which uses the input file:

```
# LHS_10.in

environment
tabular_data
  tabular_data_file = 'lhs10.dat'

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10

model
  single

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    descriptors = 'input1' 'input2'
    lower_bounds = -2.0 -2.0
    upper_bounds = 2.0 2.0

interface
  analysis_drivers 'text_book'
  fork

responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

and the restart file is written to LHS_10.rst.

Then an incremental LHS study can be run with:
dakota -i LHS_20.in -r LHS_10.rst -w LHS_20.rst

where LHS_20.in is shown below, and LHS_10.rst is the restart file containing the results of the previous LHS study.

`# LHS_20.in`

```
environment
  tabular_data
    tabular_data_file = 'lhs_incremental_20.dat'

method
  sampling
    sample_type incremental_lhs
    samples = 20
    previous_samples = 10

model
  single

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    descriptors = 'input1' 'input2'
    lower_bounds = -2.0 -2.0
    upper_bounds = 2.0 2.0

interface
  analysis_drivers 'text_book'
  fork

responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

The user will get 10 new LHS samples which maintain both the correlation and stratification of the original LHS sample. The new samples will be combined with the original samples to generate a combined sample of size 20.

This is clearly seen by comparing the two tabular data files.

**import_points_file**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: STRING
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Optional**

|                       | active_only | Import only active variables from tabular data file |

**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'

annotated
- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- expansion_order
- import_points_file
- annotated
  Denotes annotated file format
```

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
    annotated

  freeform
    - Keywords Area
    - method
    - polynomial_chaos
    - expansion_order
    - import_points_file
    - freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
  - file_formats
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

active_only
  Keywords Area
  method
  polynomial_chaos
  expansion_order
  import_points_file
  active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

`orthogonal_least_interpolation`

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- orthogonal_least_interpolation

Build a polynomial chaos expansion from simulation samples using orthogonal least interpolation.

Specification

Alias: least_interpolation_oli

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>collocation_points</td>
<td>Specify the number of collocation points used to estimate PCE coefficients using orthogonal least interpolation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>cross_validation</td>
<td>Use cross validation to choose the ’best’ polynomial order of a polynomial chaos expansion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| Optional | tensor_grid | Use sub-sampled tensor-product quadrature points to build a polynomial chaos expansion. This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models. File containing variable values and corresponding responses. |
| Optional | reuse_points | |
| Optional | import_points_file | |

**Description**

Build a polynomial chaos expansion from simulation samples using orthogonal least interpolation. Unlike the other regression methods `expansion_order` cannot be set. OLI will produce the lowest degree polynomial that interpolates the data.

collocation_points

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- orthogonal_least_interpolation
- collocation_points

Specify the number of collocation points used to estimate PCE coefficients using orthogonal least interpolation.

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Specify the number of collocation points used to estimate PCE coefficients using orthogonal least interpolation.

cross_validation

- Keywords Area
- method
Use cross validation to choose the ‘best’ polynomial order of a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use cross validation to choose the ‘best’ polynomial degree of a polynomial chaos expansion. 10 fold cross validation is used to estimate the cross validation error of a total-order polynomial expansion for orders 1 through to order. The order chosen is the one that produces the lowest cross validation error. If there are not enough points to perform 10 fold cross validation then one-at-a-time cross validation will be performed.

---

Use sub-sampled tensor-product quadrature points to build a polynomial chaos expansion.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The collocation grid is defined using a subset of tensor-product quadrature points: the order of the tensor-product grid is selected as one more than the expansion order in each dimension (to avoid sampling at roots of the basis polynomials) and then the tensor multi-index is uniformly sampled to generate a non-repeated subset of tensor quadrature points.
6.2. METHOD

reuse_points

• Keywords Area
• method
• polynomial_chaos
• orthogonal_least_interpolation
• reuse_points

This describes the behavior of reuse of points in constructing polynomial chaos expansion models.

Specification

Alias: reuse_samples
  Argument(s): none

Description

The reuse_points option controls the reuse behavior of points for various types of polynomial chaos expansions, including: collocation_points, collocation_ratio, expansion_samples, or orthogonal_least_interpolation. If any of these approaches are specified to create a set of points for the polynomial chaos expansion, one can specify reuse_points so that any points that have been previously generated (for example, from the import_points file) can be reused.

import_points_file

• Keywords Area
• method
• polynomial_chaos
• orthogonal_least_interpolation
• import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**
- By default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**
- Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:
  - annotated (default)
  - freeform

### Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'

annotated
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_choas**
- **orthogonal_least_interpolation**
- **import_points_file**
- **annotated**

Denotes annotated file format
```

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

  freeform

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • polynomial_chaos
  • orthogonal_least_interpolation
  • import_points_file
  • freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric
data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this
format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector
in order).

Default Behavior
The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must
be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to
annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found
and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

  active_only
```

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description
By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

import_expansion_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- import_expansion_file

Build a Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE) by import coefficients and a multi-index from a file

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The coefficients can be specified in an arbitrary order. The multi-index provided is used to generate a sparse expansion that consists only of the indices corresponding to the non-zero coefficients provided in the file.

variance_based_decomp

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- variance_based_decomp

Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
### Description

Dakota can calculate sensitivity indices through variance based decomposition using the keyword `variance_based_decomp`. These indicate how important the uncertainty in each input variable is in contributing to the output variance.

**Default Behavior**

Because of the computational cost, `variance_based_decomp` is turned off as a default.

If the user specified a number of samples, \( N \), and a number of nondeterministic variables, \( M \), variance-based decomposition requires the evaluation of \( N \times (M+2) \) samples. **Note that specifying this keyword will increase the number of function evaluations above the number requested with the `samples` keyword since replicated sets of sample values are evaluated.**

**Expected Outputs**

When `variance_based_decomp` is specified, sensitivity indices for main effects and total effects will be reported. Main effects (roughly) represent the percent contribution of each individual variable to the variance in the model response. Total effects represent the percent contribution of each individual variable in combination with all other variables to the variance in the model response.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain sensitivity indices that are reasonably accurate, we recommend that \( N \), the number of samples, be at least one hundred and preferably several hundred or thousands.

### Examples

```plaintext
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
```

### Theory

In this context, we take sensitivity analysis to be global, not local as when calculating derivatives of output variables with respect to input variables. Our definition is similar to that of [74] “Saltelli et al., 2004”: “The study of how uncertainty in the output of a model can be apportioned to different sources of uncertainty in the model input.”

Variance based decomposition is a way of using sets of samples to understand how the variance of the output behaves, with respect to each input variable. A larger value of the sensitivity index, \( S_i \), means that the uncertainty
in the input variable $i$ has a larger effect on the variance of the output. More details on the calculations and interpretation of the sensitivity indices can be found in [[74] “Saltelli et al., 2004”] and [[88] “Weirs et al., 2010”].

**interaction_order**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **variance_based_decomp**
- **interaction_order**

Specify the maximum number of variables allowed in an interaction when reporting interaction metrics.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The interaction_order option has been added to allow suppression of higher-order interactions, since the output volume (and memory and compute consumption) of these results could be extensive for high dimensional problems (note: the previous univariate_effects specification is equivalent to interaction_order = 1 in the current specification). Similar to suppression of interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be diagonal_covariance or full_covariance, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to again save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**drop_tolerance**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **variance_based_decomp**
- **drop_tolerance**

Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL
**Description**

The `drop_tolerance` keyword allows the user to specify a value below which sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are not displayed.

**Default Behavior**

By default, all sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are displayed.

**Usage Tips**

For `polynomial_chaos`, which outputs main, interaction, and total effects by default, the `univariate_effects` may be a more appropriate option. It allows suppression of the interaction effects since the output volume of these results can be prohibitive for high dimensional problems. Similar to suppression of these interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be `diagonal_covariance` or `full_covariance`, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**Examples**

```
method,
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
    drop_tolerance = 0.001
```

**diagonal_covariance**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **diagonal_covariance**

Display only the diagonal terms of the covariance matrix

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

With a large number of responses, the covariance matrix can be very large. `diagonal_covariance` is used to suppress the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**full_covariance**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **polynomial_chaos**
- **full_covariance**

Display the full covariance matrix
6.2. METHOD

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

With a large number of responses, the covariance matrix can be very large. `full_covariance` is used to force Dakota to output the full covariance matrix.

**normalized**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- normalized

The normalized specification requests output of PCE coefficients that correspond to normalized orthogonal basis polynomials.

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

The normalized specification requests output of PCE coefficients that correspond to normalized orthogonal basis polynomials.

**sample_type**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sample_type

Selection of sampling strategy.

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>lhs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Random**

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables

**Description**

The `sample_type` keyword allows the user to select between multiple random sampling approaches. There are two primary types of sampling: Monte Carlo (pure random) and Latin Hypercube Sampling. Additionally, these methods have incremental variants that allow an existing study to be augmented with additional samples to get better estimates of mean, variance, and percentiles.

**Default Behavior**

If the `sample_type` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by `lhs`, `random`, `incremental_lhs`, or `incremental_random`. Otherwise, `lhs` will be used by default.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 20
```

**lhs**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- `sample_type`
- `lhs`

Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

The lhs keyword invokes Latin Hypercube Sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions. This is a stratified, space-filling approach that selects variable values from a set of equi-probable bins.

Default Behavior

By default, Latin Hypercube Sampling is used. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the lhs keyword must appear in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Latin Hypercube Sampling is very robust and can be applied to any problem. It is fairly effective at estimating the mean of model responses and linear correlations with a reasonably small number of samples relative to the number of variables.

Examples

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

random

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- sample_type
- random

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The random keyword invokes Monte Carlo sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions.

Default Behavior

Monte Carlo sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the random keyword must be specified in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Monte Carlo sampling is more computationally expensive than Latin Hypercube Sampling as it requires a larger number of samples to accurately estimate statistics.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 200
```

**probability_refinement**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_refinement

Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification

**Alias:** sample_refinement

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Sampling option</td>
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<td></td>
<td>adapt_import</td>
<td>Importance sampling option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mm_adapt_import</td>
<td>Sampling option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>refinement_samples</td>
<td>Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The **probability_refinement** allows refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling. If one specifies **probability_refinement**, there are some additional options. One can specify which type of importance sampling to use (**import**, **adapt_import**, or **mm_adapt_import**). Additionally, one can specify the number of refinement samples to use with **refinement_samples** and the seed to use with **seed**.

The **probability_refinement** density reweighting accounts originally was developed based on Gaussian distributions. It now accounts for additional non-Gaussian cases.
6.2. METHOD

import

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_refinement
- import

Sampling option

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

import centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level).

adapt_import

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_refinement
- adapt_import

Importance sampling option

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

adapt_import centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level). This continues iteratively until the failure probability estimate converges.
**mm_adapt_import**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_refinement
- mm_adapt_import

Sampling option

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

`mm_adapt_import` starts with all of the samples located in the failure region to build a multimodal sampling density. First, it uses a small number of samples around each of the initial samples in the failure region. Note that these samples are allocated to the different points based on their relative probabilities of occurrence: more probable points get more samples. This early part of the approach is done to search for "representative" points. Once these are located, the multimodal sampling density is set and then `mm_adapt_import` proceeds similarly to `adapt_import` (sample until convergence).

**refinement_samples**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_refinement
- refinement_samples

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate. If using uni-modal sampling all samples are assigned to the sampling center. If using multi-modal sampling the samples are split between multiple samples according to some internally computed weights.
6.2. METHOD

export_points_file
- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>freeform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

annotated
- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- export_points_file
- annotated
Denotes annotated file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

freeform
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
  - export_points_file
  - freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

export_expansion_file

  Keywords Area

  method

  polynomial_chaos

 export_expansion_file

Export the coefficients and multi-index of a Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE) to a file

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Export the coefficients and multi-index of a Polynomial Chaos Expansion (PCE) to a file. The multi-index written will be sparse. Specifically the expansion will consists only of the indices corresponding to the non-zero coefficients of the PCE.
fixed_seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- fixed_seed

Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `fixed_seed` flag is relevant if multiple sampling sets will be generated over the course of a Dakota analysis. This occurs when using advance methods (e.g., surrogate-based optimization, optimization under uncertainty). The same seed value is reused for each of these multiple sampling sets, which can be important for reducing variability in the sampling results.

**Default Behavior**

The default behavior is to not use a fixed seed, as the repetition of the same sampling pattern can result in a modeling weakness that an optimizer could potentially exploit (resulting in actual reliabilities that are lower than the estimated reliabilities). For repeatable studies, the `seed` must also be specified.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    fixed_seed
```

**reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- reliability_levels

Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** `REALLIST`
6.2. METHOD

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<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>num_reliability_-</td>
<td>Specify which</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>reliability_-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF reliabilities by projecting out the prescribed number of sample standard deviations from the sample mean.

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- reliability_levels
- num_reliability_levels

Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page
responselevels

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_choas
- responselevels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>compute</td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `responselevels` specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If `responselevels` are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The `num_response_levels` is used to specify which arguments of the `response_level` correspond to which response.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

For example, specifying a response level of 52.3 followed with compute probabilities will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

**num_response_levels**

- Keywords: Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- response_levels
- num_response_levels

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

Default Behavior

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.
Expected Outputs
The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    samples = 100
    seed = 34785
    num_response_levels = 1 1 1
    response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5

compute

  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - polynomial_chaos
  - response_levels
  - compute
```

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
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<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>probabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>reliabilities</td>
<td>reliabilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
Computes reliabilities associated with response levels
Description

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

**Expected Output**

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

**Usage Tips**

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach.

CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary_distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                        6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                        3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities

probabilities
```

**Keywords Area**

- method
- polynomial_chaos
- response_levels
- compute
- probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

The *probabilities* keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If *response_levels* is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the *probabilities* keyword should be specified in conjunction with the *compute* keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples - 100 seed - 1
  complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                   6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                   3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute probabilities

reliabilities
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- response_levels
- compute
- reliabilities

Computes reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities

gen_reliabilities
```

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The `gen_reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `gen_reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.
Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute gen_reliabilities

system
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • polynomial_chaos
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)
```

Specification

Alias: none

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<td>Description</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>parallel</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.
6.2. METHOD

series

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

See parent keyword system for description.

parallel

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

See parent keyword system for description.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The distribution keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

Default Behavior

If the distribution keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either cumulative or complementary. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative
6.2. METHOD

cumulative

• Keywords Area
• method
• polynomial_choas
• distribution
• cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the cumulative keyword must appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

Examples

method
    sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative

complementary

• Keywords Area
• method
• polynomial_choas
• distribution
• complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions
**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the `complementary` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution complementary
```

**probability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function. In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

### Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_gen_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

### Description

See parent page
6.2. METHOD

rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

Default Behavior

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

Usage Tips

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

`mt19937`

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
* rng
* mt19937

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

**Examples**

```dakota
method
sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

*rnum2*

* Keywords Area
* method
* polynomial_ chaos
* rng
  * rnum2

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description
The \texttt{rnum2} keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

\textbf{Default Behavior}
\texttt{rnum2} is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the \texttt{rng} keyword.

\textbf{Usage Tips}
Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (\texttt{mt19937}) is recommended over \texttt{rnum2}.

Examples
\begin{verbatim}
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{samples}
- Keywords Area
- \texttt{method}
- \texttt{polynomial_choa}
- \texttt{samples}

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

\textbf{Specification}
\textbf{Alias: none}
\textbf{Argument(s): INTEGER}

\textbf{Description}
The \texttt{samples} keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

\textbf{Default Behavior}
By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

\textbf{Usage Tips}
To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \texttt{dim+1} samples should be used, where "\texttt{dim}" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \texttt{(dim+1)(dim+2)/2} samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \texttt{10*dim} samples.

For \texttt{variance_based_decomp}, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for \texttt{variance_based_decomp}, the number of simulations performed will be \texttt{N*(dim+2)}.

\textbf{Examples}
\begin{verbatim}
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 20
\end{verbatim}
seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

**Examples**

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- polynomial_chaos
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
6.2. METHOD

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = ‘UQ’

method
  id_method = ‘UQ’
  model_pointer = ‘SURR’
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
      0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = ‘SURR’
    surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = ‘DACE’
  model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
  sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = ‘DACE_M’
    single
    interface_pointer = ‘I1’
```
variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.52 stoch_collocation

- Keywords Area
- method
  - stoch_collocation

Uncertainty quantification with stochastic collocation

Specification

Alias: nond_stoch_collocation

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>p_refinement</td>
<td>Automatic polynomial order refinement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>h_refinement</td>
<td>Employ h-refinement to refine the grid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>piecewise</td>
<td>Use piecewise local basis functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>askey</td>
<td>Select the Askey basis polynomials that match the basis random variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong>*(Choose One)</td>
<td><strong>Group 3</strong></td>
<td>wiener</td>
<td>Use Hermite polynomial basis functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>quadrature.order</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cubature using tensor-products of Gaussian quadrature rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>sparse_grid_level</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dimension_preference</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>use_derivatives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>nested</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>non_nested</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>variance_based_decomp</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 5</td>
<td>diagonal-covariance</td>
<td>Display only the diagonal terms of the covariance matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>full_covariance</td>
<td>Display the full covariance matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>sample_type</td>
<td></td>
<td>Selection of sampling strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>probability_refinement</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>fixed_seed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>reliability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td></td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

Stochastic collocation is a general framework for approximate representation of random response functions in terms of finite-dimensional interpolation bases. The following provides details on the various stochastic collocation method options in Dakota.

The groups and optional keywords relating to method specification are:

- Group 1
- Group 2
- Group 3
- Group 4
  - `dimension_preference`
  - `use_derivatives`
  - `fixed_seed`

In addition, this method treats variables that are not aleatoric-uncertain different, despite the `active` keyword. Group 5 and the remainder of the optional keywords relate to the output of the method.

**stoch_collocation Group 2**

SC supports four types of bases:
the option of \texttt{piecewise} local basis functions. These are piecewise linear splines, or in the case of\ngradient-enhanced interpolation via the \texttt{use_derivatives} specification, piecewise cubic Hermite splines. Both of\nthese basis selections provide local support only over the range from the interpolated point to its nearest 1D\nnearby neighbors (within a tensor grid or within each of the tensor grids underlying a sparse grid), which exchanges\nthe fast convergence of global bases for smooth functions for robustness in the representation of nonsmooth response\nfunctions (that can induce Gibbs oscillations when using high-order global basis functions). When local basis\nfseries are used, the usage of nonequidistant collocation points (e.g., the Gauss point selections described\nabove) is not well motivated, so equidistant Newton-Cotes points are employed in this case, and all random\nvariable types are transformed to standard uniform probability space. The global gradient-enhanced interpolants\n(Hermite interpolation polynomials) are also restricted to uniform or transformed uniform random variables (due\nto the need to compute collocation weights by integration of the basis polynomials) and share the variable support\nshown in these tables for Piecewise SE. Due to numerical instability in these high-order basis polynomials, they\nare deactivated by default but can be activated by developers using a compile-time switch.

Another distinguishing characteristic of stochastic collocation relative to polynomial chaos is the ability to\nreformulate the interpolation problem from a \texttt{nodal} interpolation approach into a \texttt{hierarchical} formulation\nin which each new level of interpolation defines a set of incremental refinements (known as hierarchical surpluses)\nlayered on top of the interpolants from previous levels. This formulation lends itself naturally to uniform or adapt\nine refinement strategies, since the hierarchical surpluses can be interpreted as error estimates for the interpolant.\nEither global or local/piecewise interpolants in either value-based or gradient-enhanced approaches can be for\nmulated using \texttt{hierarchical} interpolation. The primary restriction for the hierarchical case is that it currently\nrequires a sparse grid approach using nested quadrature rules (Genz-Keister, Gauss-Patterson, or Newton-Cotes\nfor standard normals and standard uniforms in a transformed space: Askey, Wiener, or Piecewise settings may\nbe required), although this restriction can be relaxed in the future. A selection of \texttt{hierarchical} interpolation\nwill provide greater precision in the increments to mean, standard deviation, covariance, and reliability-based\nlevel mappings induced by a grid change within uniform or goal-oriented adaptive refinement approaches (see\nfollowing section).

Automated expansion refinement can be selected as either \texttt{p_refinement} or \texttt{h_refinement}, and either\nrefinement specification can be either \texttt{uniform} or \texttt{dimension_adaptive}. The \texttt{dimension_adaptive}\ncase can be further specified as either \texttt{sobol} or \texttt{generalized} (decay not supported). Each of these auto\nmated refinement approaches makes use of the \texttt{max_iterations} and \texttt{convergence_tolerance} iteration\ncontrols. The \texttt{h_refinement} specification involves use of the same piecewise interpolants (linear or cubic Her\nmite splines) described above for the \texttt{piecewise} specification option (it is not necessary to redundantly specify \texttt{piecewise} in the case of \texttt{h_refinement}). In future releases, the \texttt{hierarchical} interpolation approach\nwill enable local refinement in addition to the current \texttt{uniform} and \texttt{dimension_adaptive} options.

The \texttt{variance_based decomp} and \texttt{covariance} controls. Interpolation points for these dimensions are\nbased on Gauss-Legendre rules if non-nested, Gauss-Patterson rules if nested, and Newton-Cotes points in the\ncase of piecewise bases. Again, when probability integrals are evaluated, only the aleatory random variable\ndomain is integrated, leaving behind a polynomial relationship between the statistics and the remaining de\nsign/state/epistemic variables.

To form the multidimensional interpolants $L_i$ of the expansion, two options are provided.

1. \textbf{interpolation} on a tensor-product of Gaussian quadrature points (specified with \texttt{quadrature_order} and,\noptionally, \texttt{dimension_preference} for anisotropic tensor grids). As for PCE, non-nested Gauss rules\nare employed by default, although the presence of \texttt{p_refinement} or \texttt{h_refinement} will result in\ndefault usage of nested rules for normal or uniform variables after any variable transformations have been\napplied (both defaults can be overridden using explicit \texttt{nested} or \texttt{non_nested} specifications).

2. \textbf{interpolation} on a Smolyak sparse grid (specified with \texttt{sparse_grid_level} and, optionally, \texttt{dimension\_preference} for anisotropic sparse grids) defined from Gaussian rules. As for sparse PCE, nested rules\nare employed unless overridden with the \texttt{non_nested} option, and the growth rules are restricted unless
6.2. **METHOD**

overridden by the unrestricted keyword.

If \( n \) is small, then tensor-product Gaussian quadrature is again the preferred choice. For larger \( n \), tensor-product quadrature quickly becomes too expensive and the sparse grid approach is preferred. For self-consistency in growth rates, nested rules employ restricted exponential growth (with the exception of the dimension-adaptive \( p \)-refinement generalized case) for consistency with the linear growth used for non-nested Gauss rules (integrand precision \( i = 4l + 1 \) for sparse grid level \( l \) and \( i = 2m - 1 \) for tensor grid order \( m \)).

**Stoch_collocation Group 5**

These two keywords are used to specify how this method outputs the covariance of the responses.

**Optional Keywords regarding method outputs**

Each of these sampling specifications refer to sampling on the PCE approximation for the purposes of generating approximate statistics.

- `sample_type`
- `samples`
- `seed`
- `fixed_seed`
- `rng`
- `probability_refinement`
- `reliability_levels`
- `response_levels`
- `probability_levels`
- `gen_reliability_levels`

which should be distinguished from simulation sampling for generating the PCE coefficients as described in options 4 and 5 above (although options 4 and 5 will share the `sample_type`, `seed`, and `rng` settings, if provided).

When using the `probability_refinement` control, the number of refinement samples is not under the user’s control (these evaluations are approximation-based, so management of this expense is less critical). This option allows for refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling.

**Theory**

The stochastic collocation (SC) method is very similar to the PCE method, with the key difference that the orthogonal polynomial basis functions are replaced with interpolation polynomial bases. The interpolation polynomials may be either local or global and either value-based or gradient-enhanced. In the local case, valued-based are piecewise linear splines and gradient-enhanced are piecewise cubic splines, and in the global case, valued-based are Lagrange interpolants and gradient-enhanced are Hermite interpolants. A value-based expansion takes the form

\[
R = \sum_{i=1}^{N_p} r_i L_i(\xi)
\]

where \( N_p \) is the total number of collocation points, \( r_i \) is a response value at the \( i^{th} \) collocation point, \( L_i \) is the \( i^{th} \) multidimensional interpolation polynomial, and \( \xi \) is a vector of standardized random variables. The
$i^{th}$ interpolation polynomial assumes the value of 1 at the $i^{th}$ collocation point and 0 at all other collocation points, involving either a global Lagrange polynomial basis or local piecewise splines. It is easy to see that the approximation reproduces the response values at the collocation points and interpolates between these values at other points. A gradient-enhanced expansion (selected via the use_derivatives keyword) involves both type 1 and type 2 basis functions as follows:

$$R = N_p^{\sum_{i=1}^{N_p} [r_i H_i^{(1)}(\xi)] + \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{dr_i}{d\xi_j} H_{ij}^{(2)}(\xi)]}$$

where the $i^{th}$ type 1 interpolant produces 1 for the value at the $i^{th}$ collocation point, 0 for values at all other collocation points, and 0 for derivatives (when differentiated) at all collocation points, and the $ij^{th}$ type 2 interpolant produces 0 for values at all collocation points, 1 for the $j^{th}$ derivative component at the $i^{th}$ collocation point, and 0 for the $j^{th}$ derivative component at all other collocation points. Again, this expansion reproduces the response values at each of the collocation points, and when differentiated, also reproduces each component of the gradient at each of the collocation points. Since this technique includes the derivative interpolation explicitly, it eliminates issues with matrix ill-conditioning that can occur in the gradient-enhanced PCE approach based on regression. However, the calculation of high-order global polynomials with the desired interpolation properties can be similarly numerically challenging such that the use of local cubic splines is recommended due to numerical stability.

Thus, in PCE, one forms coefficients for known orthogonal polynomial basis functions, whereas SC forms multidimensional interpolation functions for known coefficients. Dakota provides access to SC methods through the NonDStochCollocation class. Refer to the Uncertainty Quantification Capabilities chapter of the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010" for additional information on the SC algorithm.

When using multifidelity UQ, the high fidelity expansion generated from combining the low fidelity and discrepancy expansions retains the polynomial form of the low fidelity expansion (only the coefficients are updated).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- adaptive_sampling
- gpais
- local_reliability
- global_reliability
- sampling
- importance_sampling
- polynomial_chaos
- p_refinement

Automatic polynomial order refinement
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>uniform</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|                                        |                         | dimensionadaptive | Perform automated expansion refinement by adapting to dimensions with higher ‘importance’.

**Description**

The `p_refinement` keyword specifies the usage of automated polynomial order refinement, which can be either `uniform` or `dimension_adaptive`.

The `dimension_adaptive` option is supported for the tensor-product quadrature and Smolyak sparse grid options and `uniform` is supported for tensor and sparse grids as well as regression approaches (collocation-points or collocation_ratio).

Each of these refinement cases makes use of the max_iterations and convergence_tolerance method independent controls. The former control limits the number of refinement iterations, and the latter control terminates refinement when the two-norm of the change in the response covariance matrix (or, in goal-oriented approaches, the two-norm of change in the statistical quantities of interest (QOI)) falls below the tolerance.

The `dimension_adaptive` case can be further specified to utilize sobol, decay, or generalized refinement controls. The former two cases employ anisotropic tensor/sparse grids in which the anisotropic dimension preference (leading to anisotropic integrations/expansions with differing refinement levels for different random dimensions) is determined using either total Sobol’ indices from variance-based decomposition (sobol case: high indices result in high dimension preference) or using spectral coefficient decay rates from a rate estimation technique similar to Richardson extrapolation (decay case: low decay rates result in high dimension preference). In these two cases as well as the `uniform` refinement case, the quadrature_order or sparse_grid_level are ramped by one on each refinement iteration until either of the two convergence controls is satisfied. For the `uniform` refinement case with regression approaches, the expansion_order is ramped by one on each iteration while the oversampling ratio (either defined by collocation_ratio or inferred from collocation_points based on the initial expansion) is held fixed. Finally, the generalized `dimension_adaptive` case is the default adaptive approach; it refers to the generalized sparse grid algorithm, a greedy approach in which candidate index sets are evaluated for their impact on the statistical QOI, the most influential sets are selected and used to generate additional candidates, and the index set frontier of a sparse grid is evolved in an unstructured and goal-oriented manner (refer to User’s Manual PCE descriptions for additional specifics).

For the case of `p_refinement` or the case of an explicit nested override, Gauss-Hermite rules are replaced with Genz-Keister nested rules and Gauss-Legendre rules are replaced with Gauss-Patterson nested rules, both of which exchange lower integrand precision for greater point reuse.

**uniform**
Keywords Area

- method
- stoch_collocation
- p_refinement
- uniform

Refine an expansion uniformly in all dimensions.

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The quadrature order or sparse grid level are ramped by one on each refinement iteration until either of the two convergence controls is satisfied. For the uniform refinement case with regression approaches, the expansion_order is ramped by one on each iteration while the oversampling ratio (either defined by collocation_ratio or inferred from collocation_points based on the initial expansion) is held fixed.

dimension_adaptive

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- p_refinement
- dimension_adaptive

Perform automated expansion refinement by adapting to dimensions with higher ‘importance’.

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none
### Description

Perform automated expansion refinement by adapting to dimensions with higher ‘importance’. Dimension-adaptive refinement can be further specified as either sobol or generalized (decay not supported). Each of these automated refinement approaches makes use of the max_iterations and convergence_tolerance iteration controls.

**sobol**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **p_refinement**
- **dimension_adaptive**
- **sobol**

Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE.

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE. High indices result in high dimension preference.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

generalized

• Keywords Area
• method
• stoch_collocation
• p_refinement
• dimension_adaptive
• generalized

Use the generalized sparse grid dimension adaptive algorithm to refine a sparse grid approximation of polynomial expansion.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The generalized sparse grid algorithm is a greedy approach in which candidate index sets are evaluated for their impact on the statistical QOI, the most influential sets are selected and used to generate additional candidates, and the index set frontier of a sparse grid is evolved in an unstructured and goal-oriented manner (refer to User’s Manual PCE descriptions for additional specifics).

h_refinement

• Keywords Area
• method
• stoch_collocation
• h_refinement

Employ h-refinement to refine the grid

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tr>
<td>Required(Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>uniform</td>
<td>Refine an expansion uniformly in all dimensions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

**Description**

Automated expansion refinement can be selected as either p_refinement or h_refinement, and either refinement specification can be either uniform or dimension_adaptive. The dimension_adaptive case can be further specified as either sobol or generalized (decay not supported). Each of these automated refinement approaches makes use of the max_iterations and convergence_tolerance iteration controls. The h_refinement specification involves use of the same piecewise interpolants (linear or cubic Hermite splines) described above for the piecewise specification option (it is not necessary to redundantly specify piecewise in the case of h_refinement). In future releases, the hierarchical interpolation approach will enable local refinement in addition to the current uniform and dimension_adaptive options.

**uniform**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **h_refinement**
- **uniform**

Refine an expansion uniformly in all dimensions.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The quadrature_order or sparse_grid_level are ramped by one on each refinement iteration until either of the two convergence controls is satisfied. For the uniform refinement case with regression approaches, the expansion_order is ramped by one on each iteration while the oversampling ratio (either defined by collocation_ratio or inferred from collocation_points based on the initial expansion) is held fixed.

**dimension_adaptive**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **h_refinement**
- **dimension_adaptive**

Select the adaptive Metropolis sampler
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specifikation

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td>sobol</td>
<td>Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                               |                       | generalized    | Use the generalized sparse grid dimension adaptive algorithm to refine a sparse grid approximation of polynomial expansion. |

Description

The use of an adaptive Metropolis algorithm in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm, involving adaptive updates to the covariance matrix.

sobol
- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- h_refinement
- dimension_adaptive
- sobol
  Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Determine dimension preference for refinement of a polynomial chaos expansion from the sobol sensitivity indices of the PCE. High indices result in high dimension preference.
6.2. METHOD

Use the generalized sparse grid dimension adaptive algorithm to refine a sparse grid approximation of polynomial expansion.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The generalized sparse grid algorithm is a greedy approach in which candidate index sets are evaluated for their impact on the statistical QOI, the most influential sets are selected and used to generate additional candidates, and the index set frontier of a sparse grid is evolved in an unstructured and goal-oriented manner (refer to User’s Manual PCE descriptions for additional specifics).

local_adaptive

Select the adaptive Metropolis sampler

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The use of an adaptive Metropolis algorithm in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm, involving adaptive updates to the covariance matrix.
piecewise

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- piecewise

Use piecewise local basis functions

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

SC also supports the option of piecewise local basis functions. These are piecewise linear splines, or in the case of gradient-enhanced interpolation via the use_derivatives specification, piecewise cubic Hermite splines. Both of these basis selections provide local support only over the range from the interpolated point to its nearest 1D neighbors (within a tensor grid or within each of the tensor grids underlying a sparse grid), which exchanges the fast convergence of global bases for smooth functions for robustness in the representation of nonsmooth response functions (that can induce Gibbs oscillations when using high-order global basis functions). When local basis functions are used, the usage of nonequidistant collocation points (e.g., the Gauss point selections described above) is not well motivated, so equidistant Newton-Cotes points are employed in this case, and all random variable types are transformed to standard uniform probability space.

askey

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- askey

Select the Askey basis polynomials that match the basis random variable

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

The Askey option employs an extended basis of Hermite, Legendre, Laguerre, Jacobi, and generalized Laguerre orthogonal polynomials.

- Askey polynomial selections include Hermite for normal (optimal) as well as bounded normal, lognormal, bounded lognormal, gumbel, frechet, and weibull (sub-optimal); Legendre for uniform (optimal) as well as loguniform, triangular, and bin-based histogram (sub-optimal); Laguerre for exponential (optimal); Jacobi for beta (optimal); and generalized Laguerre for gamma (optimal).
6.2. METHOD

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- wiener

**wiener**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- wiener

Use Hermite polynomial basis functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The Wiener option uses a Hermite orthogonal polynomial basis for all random variables and employs the same nonlinear variable transformation as the local and global reliability methods (and therefore has the same variable support).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- askey

**quadrature_order**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- quadrature_order

Cubature using tensor-products of Gaussian quadrature rules

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Multidimensional integration by a tensor-product of Gaussian quadrature rules (specified with `quadrature-order`, and, optionally, `dimension.preference`). The default rule selection is to employ non_nested Gauss rules including Gauss-Hermite (for normals or transformed normals), Gauss-Legendre (for uniforms or transformed uniforms), Gauss-Jacobi (for betas), Gauss-Laguerre (for exponentials), generalized Gauss-Laguerre (for gammas), and numerically-generated Gauss rules (for other distributions when using an Extended basis). For the case of `p.refinement` or the case of an explicit `nested` override, Gauss-Hermite rules are replaced with Genz-Keister nested rules and Gauss-Legendre rules are replaced with Gauss-Patterson nested rules, both of which exchange lower integrand precision for greater point reuse. By specifying a `dimension.preference`, where higher preference leads to higher order polynomial resolution, the tensor grid may be rendered anisotropic. The dimension specified to have highest preference will be set to the specified `quadrature.order` and all other dimensions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference; any non-integral portion is truncated. To synchronize with tensor-product integration, a tensor-product expansion is used, where the order $p_i$ of the expansion in each dimension is selected to be half of the integrand precision available from the rule in use, rounded down. In the case of non-nested Gauss rules with integrand precision $2m_i - 1$, $p_i$ is one less than the quadrature order $m_i$ in each dimension (a one-dimensional expansion contains the same number of terms, $p + 1$, as the number of Gauss points). The total number of terms, $N$, in a tensor-product expansion involving $n$ uncertain input variables is

$$N = 1 + P = \prod_{i=1}^{n} (p_i + 1)$$

In some advanced use cases (e.g., multifidelity UQ), multiple grid resolutions can be employed; for this reason, the `quadrature.order` specification supports an array input.

sparse_grid_level

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch.collocation
- sparse_grid_level

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using sparse grids

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
### Description

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with `sparse_grid_level` and, optionally, `dimension_preference`). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the `dimension_preference` specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full `sparse_grid_level` and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature order, the `sparse_grid_level` specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.
This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

**restricted**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **sparse_grid_level**
- **restricted**

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

**unrestricted**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **sparse_grid_level**
6.2. **METHOD**

- **unrestricted**

  Override the default restriction of growth rates for nested and non-nested rules that are by default synchronized for consistency.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

In the quadrature and sparse grid cases, growth rates for nested and non-nested rules can be synchronized for consistency. For a non-nested Gauss rule used within a sparse grid, linear one-dimensional growth rules of \( m = 2l + 1 \) are used to enforce odd quadrature orders, where \( l \) is the grid level and \( m \) is the number of points in the rule. The precision of this Gauss rule is then \( i = 2m - 1 = 4l + 1 \). For nested rules, order growth with level is typically exponential; however, the default behavior is to restrict the number of points to the lowest order rule that is available that meets the one-dimensional precision requirement implied by either a level \( l \) for a sparse grid (\( i = 4l + 1 \)) or an order \( m \) for a tensor grid (\( i = 2m - 1 \)). This behavior is known as "restricted growth" or "delayed sequences." To override this default behavior in the case of sparse grids, the unrestricted keyword can be used; it cannot be overridden for tensor grids using nested rules since it also provides a mapping to the available nested rule quadrature orders. An exception to the default usage of restricted growth is the dimension-adaptive p-refinement generalized sparse grid case described previously, since the ability to evolve the index sets of a sparse grid in an unstructured manner eliminates the motivation for restricting the exponential growth of nested rules.

**nodal**

- **Keywords Area**  
- **method**  
- **stoch.collocation**  
- **sparse.grid.level**  
- **nodal**

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using sparse grids.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse.grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals).
and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

hierarchical

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- sparse_grid_level
- hierarchical

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using sparse grids.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.
6.2. METHOD

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

**dimension_preference**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- dimension_preference

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension)

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

A set of weights specifying the relative importance of each uncertain variable (dimension). Using this specification leada to anisotropic integrations with differing refinement levels for different random dimensions.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- sobol
- decay

**use_derivatives**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
**Description**

The *use_derivatives* flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

**nested**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **nested**

Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available

**Specification**

Alias: none

 Argument(s): none

**Description**

Enforce use of nested quadrature rules if available. For instance if the aleatory variables are Gaussian use the Nested Genz-Keister rule instead of the default non-nested Gauss-Hermite rule variables are

**non_nested**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **non_nested**

Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules

**Specification**

Alias: none

 Argument(s): none

**Description**

Enforce use of non-nested quadrature rules if available. For instance if the aleatory variables are Gaussian use the non-nested Gauss-Hermite rule
6.2. METHOD

\texttt{variance\_based\_decomp}

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch\_collocation
- \texttt{variance\_based\_decomp}

Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>interaction_order</td>
<td>Specify the maximum number of variables allowed in an interaction when reporting interaction metrics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>drop_tolerance</td>
<td>Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Dakota can calculate sensitivity indices through variance based decomposition using the keyword \texttt{variance\_based\_decomp}. These indicate how important the uncertainty in each input variable is in contributing to the output variance.

**Default Behavior**

Because of the computational cost, \texttt{variance\_based\_decomp} is turned off as a default.

If the user specified a number of samples, N, and a number of nondeterministic variables, M, variance-based decomposition requires the evaluation of $N \times (M+2)$ samples. \textbf{Note that specifying this keyword will increase the number of function evaluations above the number requested with the samples keyword since replicated sets of sample values are evaluated.}

**Expected Outputs**

When \texttt{variance\_based\_decomp} is specified, sensitivity indices for main effects and total effects will be reported. Main effects (roughly) represent the percent contribution of each individual variable to the variance in the model response. Total effects represent the percent contribution of each individual variable in combination with all other variables to the variance in the model response.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain sensitivity indices that are reasonably accurate, we recommend that N, the number of samples, be at least one hundred and preferably several hundred or thousands.
Examples

```python
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
```

Theory

In this context, we take sensitivity analysis to be global, not local as when calculating derivatives of output variables with respect to input variables. Our definition is similar to that of [74] "Saltelli et al., 2004": "The study of how uncertainty in the output of a model can be apportioned to different sources of uncertainty in the model input."

Variance based decomposition is a way of using sets of samples to understand how the variance of the output behaves, with respect to each input variable. A larger value of the sensitivity index, $S_i$, means that the uncertainty in the input variable $i$ has a larger effect on the variance of the output. More details on the calculations and interpretation of the sensitivity indices can be found in [74] "Saltelli et al., 2004" and [88] "Weirs et al., 2010".

`interaction_order`

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- variance_based_decomp
- interaction_order

Specify the maximum number of variables allowed in an interaction when reporting interaction metrics.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The `interaction_order` option has been added to allow suppression of higher-order interactions, since the output volume (and memory and compute consumption) of these results could be extensive for high dimensional problems (note: the previous univariate_effects specification is equivalent to interaction_order = 1 in the current specification). Similar to suppression of interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be diagonal_covariance or full_covariance, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to again save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume)

`drop_tolerance`

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
6.2. **METHOD**

- **variance_based_decomp**
- **drop_tolerance**

Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The **drop_tolerance** keyword allows the user to specify a value below which sensitivity indices generated by **variance_based_decomp** are not displayed.

**Default Behavior**

By default, all sensitivity indices generated by **variance_based_decomp** are displayed.

**Usage Tips**

For **polynomial_chaos**, which outputs main, interaction, and total effects by default, the **univariate_effects** may be a more appropriate option. It allows suppression of the interaction effects since the output volume of these results can be prohibitive for high dimensional problems. Similar to suppression of these interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be **diagonal_covariance** or **full_covariance**, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**Examples**

```plaintext
method,  
sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 100
    variance_based_decomp
    drop_tolerance = 0.001

diagonal_covariance

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **diagonal_covariance**

Display only the diagonal terms of the covariance matrix

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
**Description**

With a large number of responses, the covariance matrix can be very large. `diagonal_covariance` is used to suppress the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

`full_covariance`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **full_covariance**

Display the full covariance matrix

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

With a large number of responses, the covariance matrix can be very large. `full_covariance` is used to force Dakota to output the full covariance matrix.

`sample_type`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **sample_type**

Selection of sampling strategy

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>lhs</td>
<td>Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

### random

| Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables |

**Description**

The `sample_type` keyword allows the user to select between multiple random sampling approaches. There are two primary types of sampling: Monte Carlo (pure random) and Latin Hypercube Sampling. Additionally, these methods have incremental variants that allow an existing study to be augmented with additional samples to get better estimates of mean, variance, and percentiles.

**Default Behavior**

If the `sample_type` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by `lhs, random, incremental_lhs, or incremental_random`. Otherwise, `lhs` will be used by default.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 20
```

**lhs**

- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `stoch_collocation`
- `sample_type`
- `lhs`

Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `lhs` keyword invokes Latin Hypercube Sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions. This is a stratified, space-filling approach that selects variable values from a set of equi-probable bins.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Latin Hypercube Sampling is used. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the `lhs` keyword must appear in conjunction with the `sample_type` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Latin Hypercube Sampling is very robust and can be applied to any problem. It is fairly effective at estimating the mean of model responses and linear correlations with a reasonably small number of samples relative to the number of variables.
Examples

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

**random**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **sample_type**
- **random**

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `random` keyword invokes Monte Carlo sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions.

**Default Behavior**

Monte Carlo sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the `random` keyword must be specified in conjunction with the `sample_type` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Monte Carlo sampling is more computationally expensive than Latin Hypercube Sampling as it requires a larger number of samples to accurately estimate statistics.

**Examples**

```
method sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 200
```

**probability_refinement**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **probability_refinement**

Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling
Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification

Alias: sample_refinement

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>import</td>
<td>Sampling option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>adapt_import</td>
<td>Importance sampling option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mm_adapt_import</td>
<td>Sampling option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>refinement_samples</td>
<td>Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The probability_refinement allows refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling. If one specifies probability_refinement, there are some additional options. One can specify which type of importance sampling to use (import, adapt_import, or mm_adapt_import). Additionally, one can specify the number of refinement samples to use with refinement_samples and the seed to use with seed.

The probability_refinement density reweighting accounts originally was developed based on Gaussian distributions. It now accounts for additional non-Gaussian cases.

import

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- probability_refinement
- import

Sampling option

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
Description

import centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level).

adapt_import

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- probability_refinement
- adapt_import

Importance sampling option

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

adapt_import centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level). This continues iteratively until the failure probability estimate converges.

mm_adapt_import

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- probability_refinement
- mm_adapt_import

Sampling option

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

*mm_adapt_import* starts with all of the samples located in the failure region to build a multimodal sampling density. First, it uses a small number of samples around each of the initial samples in the failure region. Note that these samples are allocated to the different points based on their relative probabilities of occurrence: more probable points get more samples. This early part of the approach is done to search for “representative” points. Once these are located, the multimodal sampling density is set and then *mm_adapt_import* proceeds similarly to *adapt_import* (sample until convergence).

**refinement_samples**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- probability_refinement
- refinement_samples

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate. If using uni-modal sampling all samples are assigned to the sampling center. If using multi-modal sampling the samples are split between multiple samples according to some internally computed weights.

**export_points_file**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING
## Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

### annotated

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **export_points_file**
- **annotated**

D Denotes annotated file format

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the `annotated` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
6.2. METHOD

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```python
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

freeform

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- export_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.
Examples

```python
method
    list_parameter_study
        import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
        freeform

fixed_seed
    - Keywords Area
    - method
    - stoch_collocation
    - fixed_seed

Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The `fixed_seed` flag is relevant if multiple sampling sets will be generated over the course of a Dakota analysis. This occurs when using advance methods (e.g., surrogate-based optimization, optimization under uncertainty). The same seed value is reused for each of these multiple sampling sets, which can be important for reducing variability in the sampling results.

Default Behavior

The default behavior is to not use a fixed seed, as the repetition of the same sampling pattern can result in a modeling weakness that an optimizer could potentially exploit (resulting in actual reliabilities that are lower than the estimated reliabilities). For repeatable studies, the `seed` must also be specified.

Examples

```python
method
    sampling
        sample_type lhs
        samples = 10
        fixed_seed
```

reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- reliability_levels

Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated
### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          |               | Description   |
| Optional   |               | num_reliability_levels | Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response |

### Description

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF reliabilities by projecting out the prescribed number of sample standard deviations from the sample mean.

### Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- reliability_levels
- num_reliability_levels

Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

### Description

See parent page
response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>num_response_-</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>levels</td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>compute</td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The **response_levels** specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If **response_levels** are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The **num_response_levels** is used to specify which arguments of the **response_level** correspond to which response.
### 6.2. METHOD

#### Examples

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

#### Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

**num_response_levels**

- **Keywords** Area
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **response_levels**
- **num_response_levels**

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

#### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the `response_levels` will be evenly distributed among the responses.
Expected Outputs
The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    samples = 100
    seed = 34785
    num_response_levels = 1 1 1
    response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5

compute
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • stoch_collocation
  • response_levels
  • compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level
```

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>system</th>
<th>gen_reliabilities</th>
<th>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Description**

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then on of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

**Expected Output**

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

**Usage Tips**

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary_distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities

probabilities
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- response_levels
- compute
- probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The *probabilities* keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If *response_levels* is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the *probabilities* keyword should be specified in conjunction with the *compute* keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

method sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute probabilities

reliabilities

• Keywords Area

• method

• stoch_collocation

• response_levels

• compute

• reliabilities

Computes reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

```plaintext
method sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities
```

```plaintext
gen_reliabilities
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- response_levels
- compute
- gen_reliabilities

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The `gen_reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `gen_reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.
Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                      6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                      3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute gen_reliabilities

system
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • stoch_collocation
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)
```

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>series</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.
6.2. METHOD

series

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

See parent keyword system for description.

parallel

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

See parent keyword system for description.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The distribution keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

Default Behavior

If the distribution keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either cumulative or complementary. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative
6.2. METHOD

Cumulative

- Keywords Area
  - method
  - stoch_collocation
  - distribution
  - cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the cumulative keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

Complementary

- Keywords Area
  - method
  - stoch_collocation
  - distribution
  - complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

Examples

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution complementary
```

**probability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
6.2. METHOD

Theory
Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
See parent page

gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page
6.2. METHOD

rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2

mt19937
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
• **rng**

• **mt19937**

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `mt19937` keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

`mt19937` is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended.

**Examples**

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

**rnum2**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

The `rnum2` keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

`rnum2` is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended over `rnum2`.

**Examples**

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

**samples**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **stoch_collocation**
- **samples**

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least `dim+1` samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least `(dim+1)(dim+2)/2` samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least `10*dim` samples. For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be `N*(dim+2)`.

**Examples**

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```
seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random _seed_ control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If _seed_ is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without _seed_ specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- stoch_collocation
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations
needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model
block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-
_pointer for each method is imperative.
See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SRR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
   0.1 0.2 0.6
   0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'
6.2.53 sampling

- Keywords Area

- method

- sampling

Randomly samples variables according to their distributions

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- uncertainty_quantification

- sampling

Specification

Alias: nond_sampling

Argument(s): none
### Required/-Optional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>sample_type</td>
<td>Selection of sampling strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>variance_based_decomp</td>
<td>Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>backfill</td>
<td>Ensures that the samples of discrete variables with finite support are unique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>fixed_seed</td>
<td>Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Optional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>probability_levels</strong></th>
<th>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Optional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>gen_reliability_levels</strong></th>
<th>Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Optional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>rng</strong></th>
<th>Selection of a random number generator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Optional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>samples</strong></th>
<th>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Optional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>seed</strong></th>
<th>Seed of the random number generator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Optional**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>model_pointer</strong></th>
<th>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Description

This method generates parameter values by drawing samples from the specified uncertain variable probability distributions. The computational model is executed over all generated parameter values to compute the responses for which statistics are computed. The statistics support sensitivity analysis and uncertainty quantification.

#### Default Behavior

By default, sampling methods operate on aleatory and epistemic uncertain variables. The types of variables can be restricted or expanded (to include design or state variables) through use of the `active` keyword in the variables block in the Dakota input file. If continuous design and/or state variables are designated as active, the sampling algorithm will treat them as parameters with uniform probability distributions between their upper and lower bounds.

The following keywords change how the samples are selected:

- `sample_type`
- `fixed_seed`
- `rng`
- `samples`
- `seed`
- `variance_based_decomp`
Expected Outputs

As a default, Dakota provides correlation analyses when running LHS. Correlation tables are printed with the simple, partial, and rank correlations between inputs and outputs. These can be useful to get a quick sense of how correlated the inputs are to each other, and how correlated various outputs are to inputs. `variance_based-decomp` is used to request more sensitivity information, with additional cost.

Additional statistics can be computed from the samples using the following keywords:

- `response_levels`
- `reliability_levels`
- `probability_levels`
- `gen_reliability_levels`

`response_levels` computes statistics at the specified response value. The other three allow the specification of the statistic value, and will estimate the corresponding response value.

`distribution` is used to specify whether the statistic values are from cumulative or complementary cumulative functions.

Usage Tips

Sampling is a robust approach to doing sensitivity analysis and uncertainty quantification that can be applied to any problem. It requires more simulations than newer, advanced methods. Thus, an alternative may be preferable if the simulation is computationally expensive.

Examples

```bash
# tested on Dakota 6.0 on 140501

environment
  tabular_data
    tabular_data_file = 'Sampling_basic.dat'

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20

model
  single

variables
  active uncertain
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  descriptors = 'input1' 'input2'
  lower_bounds = -2.0 -2.0
  upper_bounds = 2.0 2.0
  continuous_state = 1
  descriptors = 'constant1'
  initial_state = 100

interface
  analysis_drivers 'text_book'
  fork

responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

This example illustrates a basic sampling Dakota input file.

- LHS is used instead of purely random sampling.
- The default random number generator is used.
- Without a seed specified, this will not be reproducible
- In the variables block, two types of variables are used
- Only the uncertain variables are varied, this is the default behavior, and is also specified by the active keyword, w/ the uncertain option

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- active
- incremental_lhs

FAQ
Q: Do I need to keep the LHS* and S4 files? A: No

Sample_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- sample_type

Selection of sampling strategy

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>random</td>
<td>Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lhs</td>
<td>Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incremental_lhs</td>
<td>Augments an existing Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incremental_random</td>
<td>Augments an existing random sampling study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `sample_type` keyword allows the user to select between multiple random sampling approaches. There are two primary types of sampling: Monte Carlo (pure random) and Latin Hypercube Sampling. Additionally, these methods have incremental variants that allow an existing study to be augmented with additional samples to get better estimates of mean, variance, and percentiles.

**Default Behavior**

If the `sample_type` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by `lhs`, `random`, `incremental_lhs`, or `incremental_random`. Otherwise, `lhs` will be used by default.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

**random**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- sample_type
- random

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s)*: none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The random keyword invokes Monte Carlo sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions.

Default Behavior

Monte Carlo sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the random keyword must be specified in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Monte Carlo sampling is more computationally expensive than Latin Hypercube Sampling as it requires a larger number of samples to accurately estimate statistics.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 200
```

lhs

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- sample_type
- lhs

Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The lhs keyword invokes Latin Hypercube Sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions. This is a stratified, space-filling approach that selects variable values from a set of equi-probable bins.

Default Behavior

By default, Latin Hypercube Sampling is used. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the lhs keyword must appear in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Latin Hypercube Sampling is very robust and can be applied to any problem. It is fairly effective at estimating the mean of model responses and linear correlations with a reasonably small number of samples relative to the number of variables.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

**incremental_lhs**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **sampling**
- **sample_type**
- **incremental_lhs**

Augments an existing Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) study.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>previous_samples</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of samples from an already-completed sampling study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

**incremental_lhs** will augment an existing LHS sampling study with more samples to get better estimates of mean, variance, and percentiles. The number of samples in the second set MUST currently be 2 times the number of previous samples, although incremental sampling based on any power of two may be supported in future releases.

**Default Behavior**

Incremental Latin Hypercube Sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the `incremental_lhs` keyword must be specified in conjunction with the `sample_type` keyword. Additionally, a previous LHS (or incremental LHS) sampling study with sample size $N$ must have already been performed, and the dakota restart file must be available from this previous study. The variables and responses specifications must be the same in both studies.

**Usage Tips**

The incremental approach is useful if it is uncertain how many simulations can be completed within available time.

See the examples below and the Usage and Restarting Dakota Studies pages.
Examples

For example, say a user performs an initial study using \texttt{lhs} as the \texttt{sample_type}, and generates 10 samples. One way to ensure the restart file is saved is to specify a non-default name, via a command line option:

\begin{verbatim}
dakota -i LHS_10.in -w LHS_10.rst
\end{verbatim}

which uses the input file:

\begin{verbatim}
# LHS_10.in
environment
tabular_data
  tabular_data_file = 'lhs10.dat'

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10

model
  single

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  descriptors = 'input1' 'input2'
  lower_bounds = -2.0 -2.0
  upper_bounds = 2.0 2.0

interface
  analysis_drivers 'text_book'
    fork

responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
\end{verbatim}

and the restart file is written to \texttt{LHS\_10.rst}.

Then an incremental LHS study can be run with:

\begin{verbatim}
dakota -i LHS_20.in -r LHS_10.rst -w LHS_20.rst
\end{verbatim}

where \texttt{LHS\_20.in} is shown below, and \texttt{LHS\_10.rst} is the restart file containing the results of the previous LHS study.

\begin{verbatim}
# LHS_20.in
environment
  tabular_data
    tabular_data_file = 'lhs_incremental_20.dat'

method
  sampling
    sample_type incremental_lhs
    samples = 20
    previous_samples = 10

model
  single

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
\end{verbatim}
6.2. METHOD

```plaintext
descriptors = 'input1' 'input2'
lower_bounds = -2.0  -2.0
upper_bounds =  2.0   2.0

interface
analysis_drivers 'text_book'
fork

responses
response_functions = 1
no_gradients
no_hessians
```

The user will get 10 new LHS samples which maintain both the correlation and stratification of the original LHS sample. The new samples will be combined with the original samples to generate a combined sample of size 20.

This is clearly seen by comparing the two tabular data files.

- `previous_samples`
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - sampling
  - sample_type
  - incremental_lhs
  - previous_samples

Number of samples from an already-completed sampling study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `previous_samples` keyword allows the user to specify the number of samples in an existing sample set that is to be augmented using the `incremental_lhs` or `incremental_random` approach.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, Dakota will assume that there are no existing samples. If specified, there must be a Dakota restart file available that contains the samples.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type incremental_lhs
    samples = 20
    previous_samples = 10
```
incremental_random

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **sampling**
- **sample_type**
- **incremental_random**

Augments an existing random sampling study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>previous_samples</td>
<td>Number of samples from an already-completed sampling study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

`incremental_random` will augment an existing random sampling study with more samples to get better estimates of mean, variance, and percentiles. The number of samples in the second set MUST currently be 2 times the number of previous samples, although incremental sampling based on any power of two may be supported in future releases.

**Default Behavior**

Incremental random sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the `incremental_random` keyword must be specified in conjunction with the `sample_type` keyword. Additionally, a previous random sampling study with sample size N must have already been performed, and the dakota restart file must be available from this previous study. The variables and responses specifications must be the same in both studies.

**Usage Tips**

The incremental approach is useful if it is uncertain how many simulations can be completed within available time.

**Examples**

For example, say a user performs an initial study using `random` as the `sample_type`, and generates 50 samples. If the user creates a new input file where `samples` is now specified to be 100, the `sample_type` is defined to be `incremental_random`, and `previous_samples` is specified to be 50, the user will get 50 new random samples. The N new samples will be combined with the N previous samples to generate a combined sample of size 2N.

The method block would be the following:

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type incremental_random
    samples = 100
    previous_samples = 50
```
6.2. METHOD

The syntax for running the second sample set is:

dakota -i input2.in -r dakota.rst

where input2.in is the file which specifies incremental sampling and dakota.rst is the restart file containing the results of the previous study.

**previous_samples**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- sample_type
- incremental_random
- previous_samples

Number of samples from an already-completed sampling study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `previous_samples` keyword allows the user to specify the number of samples in an existing sample set that is to be augmented using the `incremental_lhs` or `incremental_random` approach.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, Dakota will assume that there are no existing samples. If specified, there must be a Dakota restart file available that contains the samples.

**Examples**

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type incremental_lhs
    samples = 20
    previous_samples = 10
```

**variance_based_decomp**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- variance_based_decomp

Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>drop_tolerance</td>
<td>Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Dakota can calculate sensitivity indices through variance based decomposition using the keyword `variance_based_decomp`. These indicate how important the uncertainty in each input variable is in contributing to the output variance.

**Default Behavior**

Because of the computational cost, `variance_based_decomp` is turned off as a default.

If the user specified a number of samples, N, and a number of nondeterministic variables, M, variance-based decomposition requires the evaluation of N*(M+2) samples. **Note that specifying this keyword will increase the number of function evaluations above the number requested with the `samples` keyword since replicated sets of sample values are evaluated.**

**Expected Outputs**

When `variance_based_decomp` is specified, sensitivity indices for main effects and total effects will be reported. Main effects (roughly) represent the percent contribution of each individual variable to the variance in the model response. Total effects represent the percent contribution of each individual variable in combination with all other variables to the variance in the model response.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain sensitivity indices that are reasonably accurate, we recommend that N, the number of samples, be at least one hundred and preferably several hundred or thousands.

**Examples**

```method, sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp```

Theory

In this context, we take sensitivity analysis to be global, not local as when calculating derivatives of output variables with respect to input variables. Our definition is similar to that of [[74] "Saltelli et al., 2004"]: "The study of how uncertainty in the output of a model can be apportioned to different sources of uncertainty in the model input."

Variance based decomposition is a way of using sets of samples to understand how the variance of the output behaves, with respect to each input variable. A larger value of the sensitivity index, S_i, means that the uncertainty in the input variable i has a larger effect on the variance of the output. More details on the calculations and interpretation of the sensitivity indices can be found in [[74] "Saltelli et al., 2004"] and [[88] "Weirs et al., 2010"].
6.2. METHOD

drop_tolerance

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- sampling
- variance_based_decomp
- drop_tolerance

Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `drop_tolerance` keyword allows the user to specify a value below which sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are not displayed.

**Default Behavior**

By default, all sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are displayed.

**Usage Tips**

For polynomial_chaos, which outputs main, interaction, and total effects by default, the `univariate_effects` may be a more appropriate option. It allows suppression of the interaction effects since the output volume of these results can be prohibitive for high dimensional problems. Similar to suppression of these interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be diagonal_covariance or full_covariance, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**Examples**

```plaintext
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
  drop_tolerance = 0.001
```

backfill

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- sampling
- backfill

Ensures that the samples of discrete variables with finite support are unique
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Traditional LHS can generate replicate samples when applied to discrete variables. This keyword enforces uniqueness, which is determined only over the set of discrete variables with finite support. This allows one to generate LHS for a mixed set of continuous and discrete variables whilst still enforcing that the set of discrete LHS components of all the samples are unique.

Default Behavior

Uniqueness of samples over discrete variables is not enforced.

Usage Tips

Uniqueness can be useful when applying discrete LHS to simulations without noise.

Examples

```plaintext
method,
    sampling
        samples = 12
        seed = 123456
        sample_type lhs backfill
variables,
    active all
        uniform_uncertain = 1
        lower_bounds = 0.
        upper_bounds = 1.
        descriptors = ’continuous-uniform’

discrete_uncertain_set
    integer = 1
    elements_per_variable = 4
    elements 1 3 5 ?
    descriptors = ’design-set-int’
    real = 1
    initial_point = 0.50
    set_values = 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00
    descriptors = ’design-set-real’

interface,
    direct analysis_driver = ’text_book’

responses,
    response_functions = 3
    no_gradients
    no_hessians

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

• lhs
6.2. METHOD

fixed_seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- fixed_seed

Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The fixed_seed flag is relevant if multiple sampling sets will be generated over the coarse of a Dakota analysis. This occurs when using advance methods (e.g., surrogate-based optimization, optimization under uncertainty). The same seed value is reused for each of these multiple sampling sets, which can be important for reducing variability in the sampling results.

Default Behavior

The default behavior is to not use a fixed seed, as the repetition of the same sampling pattern can result in a modeling weakness that an optimizer could potentially exploit (resulting in actual reliabilities that are lower than the estimated reliabilities). For repeatable studies, the seed must also be specified.

Examples

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    fixed_seed
```

reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- reliability_levels

Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Required/-  |
| Optional    |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>num_reliability_levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF reliabilities by projecting out the prescribed number of sample standard deviations from the sample mean.

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- reliability_levels
- num_reliability_levels

Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page
6.2. METHOD

response_levels
- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>compute</td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The response_levels specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

- If response_levels are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The num_response_levels is used to specify which arguments of the response_level correspond to which response.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Examples

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

`num_response_levels`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **sampling**
- **response_levels**
- **num_response_levels**

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

Description

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the `response_levels` will be evenly distributed among the responses.
6.2. METHOD

Expected Outputs
The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output
will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response
level specified.

Examples

```method
sampling
  samples = 100
  seed = 34785
  num_response_levels = 1 1 1
  response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5
```

compute

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- response_levels
- compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Required(&lt;Choose One&gt;)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>Dakota Keyword probabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>reliabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Computes reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

### Description

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

#### Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

#### Expected Output

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

#### Usage Tips

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach.

CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

### Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities

probabilities
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • sampling
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>system</th>
<th>Computes system reliability (series or parallel)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gen_reliabilities</th>
<th>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The probabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the probabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11 6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04 3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute probabilities

reliabilities
```

Computes reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The **reliabilities** keyword directs Dakota to compute reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If **response_levels** is specified, the reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the **reliabilities** keyword should be specified in conjunction with the **compute** keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities

  gen_reliabilities
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **sampling**
- **response_levels**
- **compute**
- **gen_reliabilities**

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

Description

The **gen_reliabilities** keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If **response_levels** is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the **gen_reliabilities** keyword should be specified in conjunction with the **compute** keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.
Examples

```
method
  sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute gen_reliabilities
```

```
system
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • sampling
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system

  Compute system reliability (series or parallel)
```

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>parallel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified response levels are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.
Series

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.

Parallel

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.
6.2. METHOD

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The distribution keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

Default Behavior

If the distribution keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either cumulative or complementary. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```
cumulative

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
  
  Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

  Default Behavior
  
  By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

  Expected Outputs
  
  Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution complementary

probability_levels
  
  • Keywords Area
  
  • method
  
  • sampling
  
  • probability_levels

  Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none
  
  Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_probability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

**gen_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

### Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_gen_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

### Description

See parent page
rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2

mt19937

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
```
6.2. METHOD

- **rng**
- **mt19937**

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

**rnum2**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **sampling**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The \texttt{rnum2} keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

\texttt{rnum2} is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the \texttt{rng} keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (\texttt{mt19937}) is recommended over \texttt{rnum2}.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

\textbf{samples}

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

The \texttt{samples} keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( \text{dim}+1 \) samples should be used, where \( \text{"dim"} \) is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \( (\text{dim}+1)(\text{dim}+2)/2 \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10\times\text{dim} \) samples. For \texttt{variance_based_decomp}, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for \texttt{variance_based_decomp}, the number of simulations performed will be \( N\times(\text{dim}+2) \).

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```
6.2. METHOD

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

  Default Behavior
  If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

  Expected Output
  If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

  Usage Tips
  If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- sampling
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'
6.2. METHOD

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.54 importance_sampling

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling

Importance sampling

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- uncertainty_quantification
- aleatory_uncertainty_quantification_methods
- sampling

Specification
Alias: nond_importance_sampling
Argument(s): none

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<tr>
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<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Group 1</td>
<td>import</td>
<td>Sampling option</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>adapt_import</td>
<td>Importance sampling option</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>mm_adapt_import</td>
<td>Sampling option</td>
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<td>refinement_-samples</td>
<td>Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>Selection of a random number generator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `importance_sampling` method is based on ideas in reliability modeling.

An initial Latin Hypercube sampling is performed to generate an initial set of samples. These initial samples are augmented with samples from an importance density as follows:

- The variables are transformed to standard normal space.
- In the transformed space, the importance density is a set of normal densities centered around points which are in the failure region.
6.2. **METHOD**

- Note that this is similar in spirit to the reliability methods, in which importance sampling is centered around a Most Probable Point (MPP).
- In the case of the LHS samples, the importance sampling density will simply by a mixture of normal distributions centered around points in the failure region.

**Options**

Choose one of the importance sampling options:

- `import`
- `adapt_import`
- `mm adapt import`

The options for importance sampling are as follows: `import` centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level). `adapt import` is the same as `import` but is performed iteratively until the failure probability estimate converges. `mm adapt import` starts with all of the samples located in the failure region to build a multimodal sampling density. First, it uses a small number of samples around each of the initial samples in the failure region. Note that these samples are allocated to the different points based on their relative probabilities of occurrence: more probable points get more samples. This early part of the approach is done to search for "representative" points. Once these are located, the multimodal sampling density is set and then `mm adapt import` proceeds similarly to `adapt import` (sample until convergence).

**Theory**

Importance sampling is a method that allows one to estimate statistical quantities such as failure probabilities (e.g. the probability that a response quantity will exceed a threshold or fall below a threshold value) in a way that is more efficient than Monte Carlo sampling. The core idea in importance sampling is that one generates samples that preferentially samples important regions in the space (e.g. in or near the failure region or user-defined region of interest), and then appropriately weights the samples to obtain an unbiased estimate of the failure probability [[77] "Srinivasan, 2002"). In importance sampling, the samples are generated from a density which is called the importance density: it is not the original probability density of the input distributions. The importance density should be centered near the failure region of interest. For black-box simulations such as those commonly interfaced with Dakota, it is difficult to specify the importance density a priori: the user often does not know where the failure region lies, especially in a high-dimensional space.[[79] "Swiler and West, 2010"). We have developed two importance sampling approaches which do not rely on the user explicitly specifying an importance density.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `adaptive_sampling`
- `gpaish`
- `local_reliability`
- `global_reliability`
- `sampling`
• polynomial_chaos
• stoch_collocation

import
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • importance_sampling
  • import

Sampling option

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
import centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level).

adapt_import
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • importance_sampling
  • adapt_import

Importance sampling option

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
adapt_import centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level). This continues iteratively until the failure probability estimate converges.
6.2. METHOD

**mm_adapt_import**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **importance_sampling**
- **mm_adapt_import**

Sampling option

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

**mm_adapt_import** starts with all of the samples located in the failure region to build a multimodal sampling density. First, it uses a small number of samples around each of the initial samples in the failure region. Note that these samples are allocated to the different points based on their relative probabilities of occurrence: more probable points get more samples. This early part of the approach is done to search for "representative" points. Once these are located, the multimodal sampling density is set and then **mm_adapt_import** proceeds similarly to **adapt_import** (sample until convergence).

**refinement_samples**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **importance_sampling**
- **refinement_samples**

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate. If using uni-modal sampling all samples are assigned to the sampling center. If using multi-modal sampling the samples are split between multiple samples according to some internally computed weights.
**response_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Group</td>
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<td>levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>compute</td>
<td>Selection of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>statistics to</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>compute at each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The *response_levels* specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If *response_levels* are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The *num_response_levels* is used to specify which arguments of the *response_level* correspond to which response.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

`num_response_levels`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **importance_sampling**
- **response_levels**
- **num_response_levels**

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the `response_levels` will be evenly distributed among the responses.
Expected Outputs
The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    samples = 100
    seed = 34785
    num_response_levels = 1 1 1
    response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5
```

compute

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- response_levels
- compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Argument(s): none</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
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<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| Optional | system | Compute system reliability (series or parallel) |

**Description**

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

**Expected Output**

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

**Usage Tips**

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                   6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                   3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities

probabilities

  * Keywords Area
  * method
  * importance_sampling
  * response_levels
  * compute
  * probabilities

  Computes probabilities associated with response levels

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argumnet(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The probabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the probabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

method
sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                 6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                 3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
compute probabilities

gen_reliabilities

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- gen_reliabilities

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The gen_reliabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the gen_reliabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute gen_reliabilities

system

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)
```

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<td>One</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.
series
- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.

parallel
- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.
6.2. METHOD

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The distribution keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

Default Behavior

If the distribution keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either cumulative or complementary. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```
cumulative

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

Examples

```plaintext
method
    sampling
        sample_type lhs
        samples = 10
        distribution complementary
```

probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          | num_probability_ | Description    |
|            |                | levels          | Specify which  |
|            |                |                 | probability_-  |
|            |                |                 | levels         |
|            |                |                 | correspond to  |
|            |                |                 | which response |

Description

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Theory
Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_probability_levels
- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
See parent page

gen_reliability_levels
- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

<table>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Optional</td>
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<td>gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_gen_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page
rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td></td>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
sample_type lhs
samples = 10
seed = 98765
rng rnum2
```

```
mt19937
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
6.2. METHOD

- **rng**
- **mt19937**

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `mt19937` keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

`mt19937` is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the **rng** keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended.

**Examples**

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

**rnum2**

- Keywords Area
- **method**
- **importance_sampling**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `rnum2` keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

`rnum2` is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended over `rnum2`.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2

samples
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - importance_sampling
  - samples

  Number of samples for sampling-based methods

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least `dim+1` samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least `(dim+1)(dim+2)/2` samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least `10*dim` samples.

For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be N*(dim+2).

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```
6.2. METHOD

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

method
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 15347

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- importance_sampling
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'Surr'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'Surr'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'II'
```

6.2. METHOD

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.55 gpais

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais

Gaussian Process Adaptive Importance Sampling

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- uncertainty_quantification

Specification

Alias: gaussian_process_adaptive_importance_sampling

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Option Group</td>
<td>emulator_samples</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>Number of data</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>points used to</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>surrogate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>model or emulator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>File containing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>variable values and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>corresponding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>responses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

*gpais* is recommended for problems that have a relatively small number of input variables (e.g. less than 10-20). This method, Gaussian Process Adaptive Importance Sampling, is outlined in the paper [1] "Dalbey and Swiler, 2012".

This method starts with an initial set of LHS samples and adds samples one at a time, with the goal of adaptively improving the estimate of the ideal importance density during the process. The approach uses a mixture of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>export_points_file</th>
<th>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>rng</td>
<td>Selection of a random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

component densities. An iterative process is used to construct the sequence of improving component densities. At each iteration, a Gaussian process (GP) surrogate is used to help identify areas in the space where failure is likely to occur. The GPs are not used to directly calculate the failure probability; they are only used to approximate the importance density. Thus, the Gaussian process adaptive importance sampling algorithm overcomes limitations involving using a potentially inaccurate surrogate model directly in importance sampling calculations.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:
- adaptive_sampling
- local_reliability
- global_reliability
- sampling
- importance_sampling
- polynomial_chaos
- stoch_collocation

emulator_samples
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- emulator_samples
Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
This keyword refers to the number of build points or training points used to construct a Gaussian process emulator. If the user specifies a number of emulator_samples that is less than the minimum number of points required to build the GP surrogate, Dakota will augment the samples to obtain the minimum required.

import_points_file
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- import_points_file
File containing variable values and corresponding responses
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
 Alias: none
 Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of
evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating
rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables,
variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input
file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to
  annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found
  and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```

```
freeform

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- import_points_file
- freeform
```

Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method list_parameter_study
   import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
   freeform
active_only
   Keywords Area
   method
   gpais
   import_points_file
   active_only
 import only active variables from tabular data file
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables. This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

**export_points_file**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- gpais
- `export_points_file`

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freeform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

**annotated**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- gpais
- `export_points_file`
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format
Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file Formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```

```freeform
  Keywords Area
  method
  gpais
  export_points_file
  freeform
```

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file Formats
6.2. METHOD

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows \( \times \) num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

response_levels
  Keywords Area
  method
  gpais
  response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response
```

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Description

The `response_levels` specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The `num_response_levels` is used to specify which arguments of the `response_level` correspond to which response.

### Examples

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

### Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.
6.2. METHOD

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

**num_response_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- gpais
- response_levels
- num_response_levels

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The **num_response_levels** keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If **num_response_levels** is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.

**Expected Outputs**

The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  samples = 100
  seed = 34785
  num_response_levels = 1 1 1
  response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5
```
compute

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- response_levels
- compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Required (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>system</td>
<td>Compute system reliability (series or parallel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The compute keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: probabilities, reliabilities, or gen_reliabilities.

**Expected Output**

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

**Usage Tips**

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach.

CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
compute probabilities

probabilities
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • gpais
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The `probabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the `probabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
compute probabilities
gen_reliabilities
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- response_levels
- compute
- gen_reliabilities

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The gen_reliabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the gen_reliabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

text

method
sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute gen_reliabilities

system
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- response_levels
- compute
- system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>series</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified response levels are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.

series

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

See parent keyword system for description.
parallel
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**
See parent keyword system for description.

**distribution**
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| complementary | Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions |

**Description**

The `distribution` keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

**Default Behavior**

If the `distribution` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either `cumulative` or `complementary`. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

**cumulative**

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.
Expected Outputs
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

Examples
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

Specification
Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description
Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior
By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

Examples
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution complementary
6.2. METHOD

probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional  | Group          | Description    | Description    |
| num_probability_levels | Optional | Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response |

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_probability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/reverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).
num_gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword mt19937</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>num2</td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**
If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**
The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

Examples
```c
method	sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2
```

**mt19937**
- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- `rng`
- `mt19937`

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The `mt19937` keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**
`mt19937` is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**
Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended.

Examples
```c
method	sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng mt19937
```
6.2. METHOD

rnum2

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- rng
- rnum2

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The rnum2 keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

rnum2 is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended over rnum2.

**Examples**

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

**samples**

- Keywords Area
- method
- gpais
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The samples keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

Usage Tips

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least dim+1 samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least (dim+1)(dim+2)/2 samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least 10*dim samples. For variance_based_decomp, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for variance_based_decomp, the number of simulations performed will be N*(dim+2).

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20

seed

  * Keywords Area
  * method
  * gpais
  * seed

Seed of the random number generator
```

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output

If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips

If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

model_pointer
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • gpais
  • model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  • block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
  Argumet(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
  If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
  When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.
  See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
   id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
   id_method = 'DACE'
   model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
   samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
   id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
   interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
   uniform_uncertain = 2
   lower_bounds = 0. 0.
   upper_bounds = 1. 1.
   descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
   id_interface = 'I1'
   system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
   analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
   response_functions = 3
   no_gradients
   no_hessians

6.2.56 adaptive_sampling

   • Keywords Area
   • method
   • adaptive_sampling

   (Experimental) Build a GP surrogate and refine it adaptively

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

   • uncertainty_quantification

Specification

Alias: nond_adaptive_sampling
Argument(s): none
## 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>emulator_samples</td>
<td>Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator (Experimental)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>fitness_metric</td>
<td>Specify the fitness_metric used to select the next point (Experimental)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>batch_selection</td>
<td>How to select new points (Experimental)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>batch_size</td>
<td>The number of points to add in each batch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response (Experimental)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>misc_options</td>
<td>This is a capability used to send the adaptive sampling algorithm specific options.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

This is an experimental capability that is not ready for production use at this point.

The goal in performing adaptive sampling is to construct a surrogate model that can be used as an accurate predictor to some expensive simulation, thus it is to one’s advantage to build a surrogate that minimizes the error over the entire domain of interest using as little data as possible from the expensive simulation. The adaptive part alludes to the fact that the surrogate will be refined by focusing samples of the expensive simulation on particular areas of interest rather than rely on random selection or standard space-filling techniques.

At a high-level, the adaptive sampling pipeline is a four-step process:

- Evaluate the expensive simulation (referred to as the true model) at initial sample point
  1. Fit a surrogate model
  2. Create a candidate set and score based on information from surrogate
  3. Select a candidate point to evaluate the true model
  4. Loop until done

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>distribution</th>
<th>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>rng</td>
<td>Selection of a random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In terms of the Dakota implementation, the adaptive sampling method currently uses Latin Hypercube sampling (LHS) to generate the initial points in Step 1 above. For Step 2, we use a Gaussian process model.

The default behavior is to add one point at a time. At each iteration (e.g. each loop of Steps 2-4 above), a Latin Hypercube sample is generated (a new one, different from the initial sample) and the surrogate model is evaluated at this points. These are the candidate points that are then evaluated according to the fitness metric. The number of candidates used in practice should be high enough to fill most of the input domain: we recommend at least hundreds of points for a low-dimensional problem. All of the candidates (samples on the emulator) are given a score and then the highest-scoring candidate is selected to be evaluated on the true model.

The adaptive sampling method also can generate batches of points to add at a time using the batch_selection and batch_size keywords.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- gpais
- local_reliability
- global_reliability
- sampling
- importance_sampling
- polynomial_chaos
- stoch_collocation

**emulator_samples**

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- emulator_samples

Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

This keyword refers to the number of build points or training points used to construct a Gaussian process emulator. If the user specifies a number of emulator_samples that is less than the minimum number of points required to build the GP surrogate, Dakota will augment the samples to obtain the minimum required.
(Experimental) Specify the `fitness_metric` used to select the next point.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td><strong>predicted_variance</strong></td>
<td><strong>distance</strong></td>
<td>Space filling metric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>gradient</strong></td>
<td>Fill the range space of the surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The adaptive sampling is an experimental capability that is not ready for production use at this time.

The user can specify the `fitness_metric` used to select the next point (or points) to evaluate and add to the set. The fitness metrics used for scoring candidate points include:

- `predicted_variance`
- `distance`
- `gradient`

**predicted_variance**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **adaptive_sampling**
- **fitness_metric**

Pick points with highest variance

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
6.2. Method

Description

The predicted variance metric uses the predicted variance of the Gaussian process surrogate as the score of a candidate point. Thus, the adaptively chosen points will be in areas of highest uncertainty according to the Gaussian process model.

distance

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- fitness_metric
- distance

Space filling metric

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The distance metric calculates the Euclidean distance in domain space between the candidate and its nearest neighbor in the set of points already evaluated on the true model. Therefore, the most undersampled area of the domain will always be selected. Note that this is a space-filling metric.

gradient

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- fitness_metric
- gradient

Fill the range space of the surrogate

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The gradient metric calculates the score as the absolute value of the difference in range space (the outputs) of the two points. The output values used are predicted from the surrogate model. This method attempts to evenly fill the range space of the surrogate.
**batch_selection**

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- batch_selection

(Experimental) How to select new points

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required <em>(Choose One)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>naive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>distance_penalty</td>
<td>Add a penalty to spread out the points in the batch.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>topology</td>
<td>In this selection strategy, we use information about the topology of the space from the Morse-Smale complex to identify next points to select.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constant_liar</td>
<td>Use information from the existing surrogate model to predict what the surrogate upgrade will be with new points.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The adaptive_sampling is an experimental capability that is not ready for production use at this time.

With batch or multi-point selection, the true model can be evaluated in parallel and thus increase throughput before refitting our surrogate model. This proposes a new challenge as the problem of choosing a single point and choosing multiple points off a surrogate are fundamentally different. Selecting the \( n \) best scoring candidates is more than likely to generate a set of points clustered in one area which will not be conducive to adapting the surrogate.

We have implemented several strategies for batch selection of points. These are described in the User’s manual and are the subject of active research.

The **batch_selection** strategies include:
6.2. METHOD

1. naive:
2. distance_penalty
3. constant_liar
4. topology

naive

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- batch_selection
- naive

Take the highest scoring candidates

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This strategy will select the $n$ highest scoring candidates regardless of their position. This tends to group an entire round of points in the same area.

distance_penalty

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- batch_selection
- distance_penalty

Add a penalty to spread out the points in the batch

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

In this strategy, the highest scoring candidate is selected and then all remaining candidates are re-scored with a distance penalization factor added in to the score.
topology

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- batch_selection
- topology

In this selection strategy, we use information about the topology of the space from the Morse-Smale complex to identify next points to select.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

In this strategy we look at the topology of the scoring function and select the $n$ highest maxima in the topology. To determine local maxima, we construct the approximate Morse-Smale complex. This strategy does require the user to have the Morse-Smale package.

**constant liar**

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- batch_selection
- constant liar

Use information from the existing surrogate model to predict what the surrogate upgrade will be with new points.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The strategy first selects the highest scoring candidate, and then refits the surrogate using a "lie" value at the point selected. The 'lie' value is based on the surrogate predictions and not the simulation. This process repeats until $n$ points have been selected whereupon the lie values are removed from the surrogate and the selected points are evaluated on the true model and the surrogate is refit with these values.
6.2. **METHOD**

**batch_size**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **adaptive_sampling**
- **batch_size**

The number of points to add in each batch.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The number of points to add in each batch.

**import_points_file**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **adaptive_sampling**
- **import_points_file**

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

By default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding \( \text{num\_rows} \times \text{num\_cols} \) whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**
6.2. METHOD

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

freeform
```

Keywords Area

- method
- adaptive_sampling
- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```python
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
f
  freeform
```

active_only

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- import_points_file
- active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword active_only indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.
export_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- export_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

freeform
• Keywords Area
• method
• adaptive_sampling
• export_points_file
• freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
• file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
```

response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>compute</th>
<th>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Description**

The `response_levels` specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The `num_response_levels` is used to specify which arguments of the `response_level` correspond to which response.

**Examples**

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.
6.2. METHOD

**num_response_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **adaptive_sampling**
- **response_levels**
- **num_response_levels**

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.

**Expected Outputs**

The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  samples = 100
  seed = 34785
  num_response_levels = 1 1 1
  response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5

compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level
```
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>system</td>
<td>Compute system reliability (series or parallel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

Expected Output

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

Usage Tips

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities

probabilities
  • Keywords Area
```
6.2. METHOD

- method
- adaptive_sampling
- response_levels
- compute
- probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The `probabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the `probabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                   6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                   3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute probabilities

gen_reliabilities
```

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The gen_reliabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the gen_reliabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute gen_reliabilities

system

• Keywords Area
• method
• adaptive_sampling
• response_levels
• compute
• system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
### Description

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.

#### series

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **adaptive_sampling**
- **response_levels**
- **compute**
- **system**
- **series**

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

See parent keyword `system` for description.
parallel
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • adaptive_sampling
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system
  • parallel
  Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
See parent keyword system for description.

misc_options
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • adaptive_sampling
  • misc_options
  (Experimental) This is a capability used to send the adaptive sampling algorithm specific options.

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The adaptive sampling algorithm is an experimental capability and not ready for production use at this time.

distribution
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • adaptive_sampling
  • distribution
  Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The distribution keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

Default Behavior

If the distribution keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either cumulative or complementary. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

cumulative

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the cumulative keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative
```

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution complementary
```

**probability_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **adaptive_sampling**
- **probability_levels**

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_probability_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- adaptive_sampling
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
### Description

The *rng* keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the *rng* keyword must be accompanied by either *rnum2* (pseudo-random numbers) or *mt19937* (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, *mt19937*, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

### Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2

mt19937

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- rng
- mt19937

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister
```

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister.

Default Behavior

mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

Usage Tips

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

Examples

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

rnum2

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- rng
- rnum2

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The rnum2 keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

Default Behavior

rnum2 is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

Usage Tips

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended over rnum2.

Examples

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```
samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least `dim+1` samples should be used, where “dim” is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least `(dim+1)(dim+2)/2` samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least `10*dim` samples. For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be $N*(dim+2)$.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

```
seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- samples

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
6.2. METHOD

Description
The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```dakota
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 15347
```

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- adaptive_sampling
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative. See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
    dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
    polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.57 **pof_darts**

- Keywords Area
- method
• pof_darts

Probability-of-Failure (POF) Darts is a novel method for estimating the probability of failure based on random sphere-packing.

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• uncertainty_quantification

Specification
Alias: nond_pof_darts
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>lipschitz</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select the type of Lipschitz estimation (global or local)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>emulator</td>
<td></td>
<td>Select the type of emulator used to estimate the Probability of Failure in POF Darts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>emulator_samples</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the number of samples taken on the emulator to estimate the Probability of Failure in POF Darts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Optional distribution
Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

## Optional probability_levels
Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

## Optional gen_reliability_-levels
Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

## Optional rng
Selection of a random number generator

## Optional samples
Number of samples for sampling-based methods

## Optional seed
Seed of the random number generator

## Optional model_pointer
Identifier for model block to be used by a method

### Description

`pof_darts` is a novel method for estimating the probability of failure based on random sphere-packing. Random spheres are sampled from the domain with the constraint that each new sphere center has to be outside prior disks. The radius of each sphere is chosen such that the entire sphere lies either in the failure or the non-failure region. This radius depends on the function evaluation at the disk center, the failure threshold and an estimate of the function gradient at the disk center. We utilize a Gaussian process surrogate for evaluating the gradient and hence only one function evaluation is required for each sphere.

After exhausting the sampling budget specified by `samples`, which is the number of spheres per failure threshold, the domain is decomposed into two regions. These regions correspond to failure and non-failure, each represented by the union of the spheres of each type. The volume of the union of failure spheres gives a lower bound on the required estimate of the probability of failure, while the volume of the union of the non-failure spheres subtracted from the volume of the domain gives an upper estimate. We currently report the average of both estimates.

`pof_darts` handles multiple response functions and allows each to have multiple failure thresholds. For each failure threshold, `pof_darts` will insert a number of spheres specified by the user-input parameter `samples`.

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
However, estimating the probability of failure for each failure threshold would utilize the total number of disks sampled for all failure thresholds. For each failure threshold, the sphere radii changes to generate the right spatial decomposition.

**lipschitz**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **lipschitz**

Select the type of Lipschitz estimation (global or local)

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>local</td>
<td>Specify local estimation of the Lipschitz constant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>global</td>
<td>Specify global estimation of the Lipschitz estimate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

There are two types of Lipschitz estimation used in sizing the disks used in POF Darts: global and local. The global approach uses one Lipschitz estimate for the entire domain. The local approach calculates the Lipschitz estimate separately for each Voronoi region based on nearby points. The local method is more expensive but more accurate.

**local**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **lipschitz**
- **local**

Specify local estimation of the Lipschitz constant

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none
**Description**

The local approach to estimating the Lipschitz constant calculates the Lipschitz estimate separately for each Voronoi region based on nearby points. The local method is more expensive but more accurate than the global method.

**global**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **lipschitz**
- **global**

Specify global estimation of the Lipschitz estimate

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The global approach uses one Lipschitz estimate for the entire domain.

**emulator**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **emulator**

Select the type of emulator used to estimate the Probability of Failure in POF Darts

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>gaussian_process</strong></td>
<td>Specify a Gaussian process emulator to be used in POF Darts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| voronoi_surrogate | Specify a Voronoi Piecewise Surrogate to be used in POF Darts |

**Description**

There are two types of emulators used to estimate the Probability of Failure in POF Darts: a Gaussian process emulator, specified by `gaussian_process`, and a Voronoi Piecewise Surrogate, specified by `voronoi_surrogate`. The Gaussian process emulator is a global emulator (one emulator over the entire domain). The Voronoi surrogate constructs many local emulators: it constructs a separate polynomial regression surrogate in each Voronoi cell, based on the surrounding neighbors and the order of the polynomial specified.

**gaussian_process**

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- emulator
- gaussian_process

Specify a Gaussian process emulator to be used in POF Darts

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The Gaussian process emulator is a global emulator (one emulator over the entire domain) that will be sampled in POF Darts to estimate the probability of failure.

**voronoi_surrogate**

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- emulator
- voronoi_surrogate

Specify a Voronoi Piecewise Surrogate to be used in POF Darts

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
### Description

The Voronoi surrogate constructs many local emulators: it constructs a separate polynomial regression surrogate in each Voronoi cell, based on the surrounding neighbors and the order of the polynomial specified.

**surrogate_order**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **emulator**
- **voronoi_surrogate**
- **surrogate_order**

Specify the order of the polynomial used in each Voronoi cell to construct the Voronoi surrogate

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

### Description

The Voronoi surrogate constructs many local emulators: it constructs a separate polynomial regression surrogate in each Voronoi cell, based on the surrounding neighbors and the order of the polynomial specified. The surrogate_order specifies the order of the polynomial. For example, order = 2 will generate all terms which have exponents that result in a sum of two or less. For example, order = 2 in a 2-dimensional problem would generate terms of x1, x2, x1^2, x2^2, and x1x2.

**emulator_samples**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **emulator_samples**

Specify the number of samples taken on the emulator to estimate the Probability of Failure in POF Darts
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The last step of the POF Darts method involves constructing an emulator over the points identified thus far, and sampling that emulator extensively to estimate the probability of failure. emulator_samples allows one to specify the number of samples taken on the emulator. The default is 1E+6. If the probability of failure estimate is zero, the user may want to increase the number of emulator samples.

response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>compute</td>
<td></td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The response_levels specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

Default Behavior

If response_levels are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

Expected Outputs

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:
1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The `num_response_levels` is used to specify which arguments of the `response_level` correspond to which response.

**Examples**

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

**num_response_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **response_levels**
- **num_response_levels**

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

Default Behavior

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.

Expected Outputs

The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    samples = 100
    seed = 34785
    num_response_levels = 1 1 1
    response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5

compute
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - pof_darts
  - response_levels
  - compute
```

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Compute probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities</td>
<td>associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gen_reliabilities</th>
<th>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

**Expected Output**

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

**Usage Tips**

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                       6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                       3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities
```

**probabilities**

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- response_levels
- compute
- probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
6.2. METHOD

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `probabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the `probabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
   sample_type random
   samples = 100 seed = 1
   complementary distribution
   response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
   compute probabilities

gen_reliabilities
```

**Keywords Area**

- `method`
- `pof_darts`
- `response_levels`
- `compute`
- `gen_reliabilities`

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The gen_reliabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the gen_reliabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

```plaintext
method
sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                   6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                   3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute gen_reliabilities
```

system

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- response_levels
- compute
- system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required One</td>
<td></td>
<td>series</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.

#### series

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

See parent keyword `system` for description.

#### parallel

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- **parallel**

  Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

See parent keyword `system` for description.

### distribution

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **distribution**

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The `distribution` keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

**Default Behavior**

If the `distribution` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either `cumulative` or `complementary`. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

**Expected Outputs**
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative
```

**cumulative**

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative
```
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution complementary

probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_probability_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **pof_darts**
- **probability_levels**
- **num_probability_levels**

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

---

**num_gen_reliability_levels**
- **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **pof_darts**
  - **gen_reliability_levels**

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

---

**num_gen_reliability_levels**
- **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **pof_darts**
  - **gen_reliability_levels**
  - **num_gen_reliability_levels**

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response.
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

**rng**

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof, darts
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional Required (Choose One) | | mt19937 | Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister |
| | | rnum2 | Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package |

**Description**

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.
Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

mt19937
- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- rng
- mt19937

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

Default Behavior

mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

Usage Tips

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

rnum2
- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- rng
6.2. METHOD

- rnum2
  Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The rnum2 keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

rnum2 is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended over rnum2.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2

samples
```

**Keywords Area**

- method
- pof_darts
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The samples keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least dim+1 samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least
(dim+1)(dim+2)/2 samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least 10*dim samples. For variance-based decomp, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for variance-based decomp, the number of simulations performed will be N*(dim+2).

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20

seed

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • pof_darts
  • seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

  Default Behavior
  If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

  Expected Output
  If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

  Usage Tips
  If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```
model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- pof_darts
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
```
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0.0.
upper_bounds = 1.1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.58 efficient_subspace

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace

(Experimental) efficient subspace method (ESM)

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- uncertainty_quantification

Specification
Alias: nond_efficient_subspace
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>emulator_samples</th>
<th>Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator. The number of points to add in each batch. Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>batch_size</td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value. Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value. Selection of a random number generator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>probability_levels</td>
<td>gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rng</td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seed</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

ESM is experimental and its implementation is incomplete. It is an active subspace method, intended for use with models with high dimensional input parameter spaces and analytic gradients. The method works by evaluating the response gradient at a number of points in the input parameter space and using a singular value decomposition to identify key linear combinations of input directions along which the response varies. Then UQ is performed in the reduced input parameter space.
emulator_samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- emulator_samples

Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

This keyword refers to the number of build points or training points used to construct a Gaussian process emulator. If the user specifies a number of emulator_samples that is less than the minimum number of points required to build the GP surrogate, Dakota will augment the samples to obtain the minimum required.

batch_size

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- batch_size

The number of points to add in each batch.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The number of points to add in each batch.

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions
### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>complementary</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The `distribution` keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

**Default Behavior**

If the `distribution` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either `cumulative` or `complementary`. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

### Examples

```plaintext
method	sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
distribution cumulative
```

**cumulative**

- Keywords Area
- method
- `efficient_subspace`
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions
**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method  
sampling  
sample_type lhs  
samples = 10  
distribution cumulative
```

**complementary**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **efficient_subspace**
- **distribution**
- **complementary**

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the `complementary` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution complementary
```

probability_levels

- **Keywords Area**
- method
- efficient_subspace
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_probability_levels

- **Keywords Area**
- method
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- efficient_subspace
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function. In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
### Description

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

### Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
mt19937

• Keywords Area
• method
• efficient_subspace
• rng
• mt19937

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister
```

### Specification

- **Alias:** none
- **Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td><strong>Choose One</strong></td>
<td><strong>mt19937</strong></td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>rnum2</strong></td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Description

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the \texttt{rng} keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

**Examples**

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

**rnum2**

- Keywords Area
- method
- efficient_subspace
- rng
- rnum2

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The rnum2 keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

rnum2 is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the \texttt{rng} keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended over rnum2.

**Examples**

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```
samples
• Keywords Area
• method
• efficient_subspace
• samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The samples keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at
which to execute a model.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

Usage Tips
To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( \text{dim}+1 \) samples should be used,
where “\( \text{dim} \)” is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least
\( (\text{dim}+1)(\text{dim}+2)/2 \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10\star\text{dim} \) samples.

For \text{variance}_\text{based}_\text{decomp}, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for \text{variance}_\text{based}_\text{decomp}, the number of simulations performed will be \( N\star(\text{dim}+2) \).

Examples
method
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 20

seed
• Keywords Area
• method
• efficient_subspace
• seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER
6.2. METHOD

Description
The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

model_pointer
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • efficient_subspace
  • model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
```

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative. See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SURR'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
            0.1 0.2 0.6
            0.1 0.2 0.6
        sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SURR'
    surrogate global,
        dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
        polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
    sampling sample_type lhs
        samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
    id_interface = 'I1'
    system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
    response_functions = 3
    no_gradients
    no_hessians
```

### 6.2.59  **global_evidence**

- **Keywords Area**

- **method**
6.2. **METHOD**

- **global_evidence**

Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with global optimization methods

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **epistemic_uncertainty_quantification_methods**
- **evidence theory**

**Specification**

**Alias:** nond_global_evidence  
**Argument(s):** none

<p>| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional/Choose One</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>sbo</td>
<td>Use the surrogate based optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ego</td>
<td>Use the Efficient Global Optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ea</td>
<td>Use an evolutionary algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lhs</td>
<td>Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

See the topic page `evidence_theory` for important background information and usage notes. 

The `global_evidence` keyword allows the user to specify several global approaches for calculating the belief and plausibility functions:

- `lhs` - note: this takes the minimum and maximum of the samples as the bounds per "interval cell combination."

- `ego` - uses Efficient Global Optimization which is based on an adaptive Gaussian process surrogate.

- `sbo` - uses a Gaussian process surrogate (non-adaptive) within an optimization process.

- `ea` - uses an evolutionary algorithm. This can be expensive as the ea will be run for each interval cell combination.

Note that to calculate the plausibility and belief cumulative distribution functions, one has to look at all combinations of intervals for the uncertain variables. In terms of implementation, if one is using LHS sampling as outlined above, this method creates a large sample over the response surface, then examines each cell to determine the minimum and maximum sample values within each cell. To do this, one needs to set the number of samples relatively high: the default is 10,000 and we recommend at least that number. If the model you are running is a simulation that is computationally quite expensive, we recommend that you set up a surrogate model within the Dakota input file so that `global_evidence` performs its sampling and calculations on the surrogate and not on the original model. If one uses optimization methods instead to find the minimum and maximum sample values within each cell, this can also be computationally expensive.
6.2. METHOD

Theory
The basic idea is that one specifies an “evidence structure” on uncertain inputs and propagates that to obtain belief and plausibility functions on the response functions. The inputs are defined by sets of intervals and Basic Probability Assignments (BPAs). Evidence propagation is computationally expensive, since the minimum and maximum function value must be calculated for each “interval cell combination.” These bounds are aggregated into belief and plausibility.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:
- global_interval_est
- local_evidence
- local_interval_est

sbo
- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- sbo

Use the surrogate based optimization method

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>gaussian_process</td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>use_derivatives</td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Optional**

| export_points_file | Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model |

**Description**

A surrogate-based optimization method will be used. The surrogate employed in sbo is a Gaussian process surrogate.

The main difference between ego and the sbo approach is the objective function being optimized. ego relies on an expected improvement function, while in sbo, the optimization proceeds using an evolutionary algorithm (coliny_ea) on the Gaussian process surrogate: it is a standard surrogate-based optimization. Also note that the sbo option can support optimization over discrete variables (the discrete variables are relaxed) while ego cannot. This is not the same as surrogate_based_global.

gaussian_process

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- sbo
- gaussian_process

Gaussian Process surrogate model

**Specification**

Alias: kriging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the surfpack keyword.

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.
6.2. **METHOD**

surfpack
- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- sbo
- gaussian_process
- surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack. Several user options are available:

1. **Optimization methods:**
   
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See `optimization_method`.

   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the `max_trials` keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. **Trend Function:**
   
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See `trend`.

3. **Correlation Lengths:**
   
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See `correlation_lengths`.

4. **Ill-conditioning**
   
   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.

   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.

   The `surfpack` model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using
5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).

The `use_derivatives` keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).

See notes in the Theory section.

**Theory**

**Gradient Enhanced Kriging**

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

dakota

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **sbo**
- **gaussian_process**
- **dakota**

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none
6.2. METHOD

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the **dakota** version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the **gaussian_process dakota** model can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a **point_selection** option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the **point_selection** option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

**use_derivatives**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **sbo**
- **use_derivatives**

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

Description

The **use_derivatives** flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, its use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

**import_points_file**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- global_evidence
- sbo
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required-/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td></td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The import_points_file allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

Default Behavior
Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

Usage Tips
Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the import_points_file must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

Examples

```method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
6.2. METHOD

- sbo
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
method list_parameter_study
   import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
   annotated

freeform
- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- sbo
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

active_only
- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- sbo
- import_points_file
- active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword active_only indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables. This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

export_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- sbo
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional/Choose One</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword annotated</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>freeform</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.
annotated
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_evidence
  • sbo
  • export_points_file
  • annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  • file formats

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
  • Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
  • For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
  • Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = ’dakota_pstudy.3.dat’
  annotated
6.2. METHOD

```
freeform

• Keywords Area
• method
• global_evidence
• sbo
• export_points_file
• freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The \( \text{num}_{\text{rows}} \times \text{num}_{\text{cols}} \) total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
freeform
```
Use the Efficient Global Optimization method

**Specification**

** ego**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **ego**

Use the Efficient Global Optimization method.

**Description**

In the case of `ego`, the efficient global optimization (EGO) method is used to calculate bounds. By default, the Surfpack GP (Kriging) model is used, but the Dakota implementation may be selected instead. If `use_derivatives` is specified the GP model will be built using available derivative data (Surfpack GP only).

See `efficient_global` for more information.

**gaussian_process**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **ego**
- **gaussian_process**

Gaussian Process surrogate model
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: kriging
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>surfpack</td>
<td></td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the `surfpack` keyword. A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the `dakota` version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

`surfpack`

- Keywords Area
- method
- `global,evidence`
- ego
- `gaussian_process`
- surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack. Several user options are available:

1. Optimization methods:
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See `optimization_method`. 
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the `max_trials` keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the “truth” model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. Trend Function:
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See `trend`.

3. Correlation Lengths:
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See `correlation_lengths`.

4. Ill-conditioning
   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.
   
   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.
   
   The `surfpack` model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using `surfpack`.

5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).
   The `use_derivatives` keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).
   
   See notes in the Theory section.

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.
6.2. METHOD

**dakota**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **ego**
- **gaussian_process**
- **dakota**

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

### Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. **For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.**

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the **gaussian_process dakota** model can be found in [59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a **point_selection** option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the **point_selection** option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

**use_derivatives**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **ego**
- **use_derivatives**

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The `use_derivatives` flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

**import_points_file**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **ego**
- **import_points_file**

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Group</th>
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<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td></td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:
6.2. METHOD

- annotated (default)
- freeform

Examples

```python
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

annotated

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **ego**
- **import_points_file**
- **annotated**

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the **annotated** keyword must be used in conjunction with the **import_points_file** keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though **freeform** remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.
Examples

```
method list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated
```

```
freeform

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- ego
- import_points_file
- freeform
```

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.
6.2. **METHOD**

### Examples

```python
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
freeform

active_only
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - global_evidence
  - ego
  - import_points_file
  - active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file
```

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

### export_points_file

```python

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- ego
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model
```
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|       |        | freeform | Denotes freeform file format |

Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

- annotated
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - global_evidence
  - ego
  - export_points_file
  - annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the `annotated` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated

freeform
```

**Keywords Area**

- `method`
- `global_evidence`
- `ego`
- `export_points_file`
- `freeform`

Denotes freeform file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `file_formats`

**Specification**

**Alias:** `none`
**Argument(s):** `none`

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The `num_rows x num_cols` total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**
Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```python
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

ea
  Keywords Area
  method
  global_evidence
  ea

Use an evolutionary algorithm
```

Specification

**Alias:** none
  **Argument(s):** none

Description

In this approach, the evolutionary algorithm from Coliny, coliny.ea, is used to perform the interval optimization with no surrogate model involved. Again, this option of ea can support interval optimization over discrete variables.

lhs
  Keywords Area
  method
  global_evidence
  lhs

Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables

Specification

**Alias:** none
  **Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description

The lhs keyword invokes Latin Hypercube Sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions. This is a stratified, space-filling approach that selects variable values from a set of equi-probable bins.

Default Behavior

By default, Latin Hypercube Sampling is used. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the lhs keyword must appear in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Latin Hypercube Sampling is very robust and can be applied to any problem. It is fairly effective at estimating the mean of model responses and linear correlations with a reasonably small number of samples relative to the number of variables.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>compute</td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `response_levels` specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The `num_response_levels` is used to specify which arguments of the `response_level` correspond to which response.

**Examples**

For example, specifying a `response_level` of 52.3 followed with `compute probabilities` will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```python
response_levels = 1. 2. 3 4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the `num_response_levels` key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.
6.2. METHOD

num_response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- response_levels
- num_response_levels

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

Default Behavior

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.

Expected Outputs

The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```plaintext
method
sampling
  samples = 100
  seed = 34785
  num_response_levels = 1 1 1
  response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5

compute
```

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>system</td>
<td>Compute system reliability (series or parallel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

Expected Output

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

Usage Tips

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities

probabilities
  • Keywords Area
```
6.2. METHOD

- method
- global_evidence
- response_levels
- compute
- probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `probabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the `probabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                     6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                     3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute probabilities
```

**gen_reliabilities**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- response_levels
- compute
- gen_reliabilities

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The `gen_reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `gen_reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

```plaintext
method
sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
        6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
        3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
compute gen_reliabilities
```

system

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- response_levels
- compute
- system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

• Keywords Area
• method
• global_evidence
• response_levels
• compute
• system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>series</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified response levels are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.

**series**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global,evidence
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See parent keyword system for description.
parallel
• Keywords Area
• method
• global_evidence
• response_levels
• compute
• system
• parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td></td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>complementary</th>
<th>Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description

The `distribution` keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

**Default Behavior**

If the `distribution` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either `cumulative` or `complementary`. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative

cumulative
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_evidence
  • distribution
  • cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions
```

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Expected Outputs
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response threshold.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior
By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the complementary keyword must be appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

Examples

```
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution complementary
```
6.2. METHOD

probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_probability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

gen_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_evidence
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen-reliability-levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).
6.2. METHOD

num_gen_reliability_levels

• Keywords Area
• method
• global_evidence
• gen_reliability_levels
• num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

See parent page

rng

• Keywords Area
• method
• global_evidence
• rng

Selection of a random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The \texttt{rng} keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

\textbf{Default Behavior}

If specified, the \texttt{rng} keyword must be accompanied by either \texttt{rnum2} (pseudo-random numbers) or \texttt{mt19937} (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, \texttt{mt19937}, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

\textbf{Usage Tips}

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

Examples

\begin{verbatim}
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2
\end{verbatim}

\texttt{mt19937}

- Keywords Area
- method
- \texttt{global_evidence}
- \texttt{rng}
- \texttt{mt19937}

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

Specification

\texttt{Alias}: none

\texttt{Argument(s)}: none

Description

The \texttt{mt19937} keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: \url{http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister}.

\textbf{Default Behavior}

\texttt{mt19937} is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the \texttt{rng} keyword.

\textbf{Usage Tips}

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (\texttt{mt19937}) is recommended.

Examples

\begin{verbatim}
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng mt19937
\end{verbatim}
6.2. METHOD

**rnum2**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `rnum2` keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

`rnum2` is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended over `rnum2`.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
    sampling
        sample_type lhs
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765
        rng rnum2
```

**samples**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_evidence**
- **samples**

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
Description

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( \text{dim} + 1 \) samples should be used, where \( \text{"dim"} \) is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \( (\text{dim}+1)(\text{dim}+2)/2 \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10 \times \text{dim} \) samples. For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be \( N \times (\text{dim}+2) \).

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20

seed

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_evidence
  • seed

  Seed of the random number generator
```

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

The random `seed` control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If `seed` is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without `seed` specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
6.2. **METHOD**

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
    sampling
        sample_type lhs
        samples = 10
        seed = 15347

model_pointer
    • Keywords Area
    • method
    • global_evidence
    • model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• block_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SURR'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
```
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
  0.1 0.2 0.6
  0.1 0.2 0.6

sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = ’SRR’
  surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = ’DACE’
polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = ’DACE’
  model_pointer = ’DACE_M’
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = ’DACE_M’
  single
  interface_pointer = ’I1’

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = ’x1’ ’x2’

interface
  id_interface = ’I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = ’text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.60  global_interval_est

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est

Interval analysis using global optimization methods

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- uncertainty_quantification
- epistemic_uncertainty_quantification_methods
- interval_estimation
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: nond_global_interval_est
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>sbo</td>
<td>Use the surrogate based optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ego</td>
<td>Use the Efficient Global Optimization method</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ea</td>
<td>Use an evolutionary algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lhs</td>
<td>Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>mg</td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Selection of a random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

In the global approach to interval estimation, one uses either a global optimization method or a sampling method to assess the bounds of the responses.

`global_interval_est` allows the user to specify several approaches to calculate interval bounds on the output responses.

- `lhs` - note: this takes the minimum and maximum of the samples as the bounds
- `ego`
- `sbo`
- `ea`
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- global_evidence
- local_evidence
- local_interval_est

sbo

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo

Use the surrogate based optimization method

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>gaussian_process</td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>use_derivatives</td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

A surrogate-based optimization method will be used. The surrogate employed in sbo is a Gaussian process surrogate.

The main difference between ego and the sbo approach is the objective function being optimized. ego relies on an expected improvement function, while in sbo, the optimization proceeds using an evolutionary algorithm (coliny_ea) on the Gaussian process surrogate: it is a standard surrogate-based optimization. Also note that the sbo option can support optimization over discrete variables (the discrete variables are relaxed) while ego cannot. This is not the same as surrogate_based_global.
6.2. METHOD

gaussian_process

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- gaussian_process

Gaussian Process surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** kriging

**Argument(s):** none

<p>| Required/-  | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword   |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Select the built in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the **surfpack** keyword.

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota.

**For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.**

surfpack

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- gaussian_process
- surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack.

Several user options are available:

1. Optimization methods:
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See optimization_method.

   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the max_trials keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. Trend Function:
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See trend.

3. Correlation Lengths:
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See correlation_lengths.

4. Ill-conditioning
   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.

   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.

   The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using

5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).
   The use_derivatives keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).

   See notes in the Theory section.

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient
information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

**dakota**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_interval_est**
- **sbo**
- **gaussian_process**
- **dakota**

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. **For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.** Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the gaussian_process dakota model can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a "nugget," but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a point_selection option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the point_selection option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.
use_derivatives

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `use_derivatives` flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

**import_points_file**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword annotated</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>freeform</th>
<th>Denotes freeform file format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'

annotated
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_interval_est**
- **sbo**
- **import_points_file**
- **annotated**

Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

  freeform
    • Keywords Area
    • method
    • global_interval_est
    • sbo
    • import_points_file
    • freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The \( n_{\text{rows}} \times n_{\text{cols}} \) total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```python
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
  active_only

  # Keywords Area
  method
  global_interval_est
  sbo
  import_points_file
  active_only

  Import only active variables from tabular data file
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables. This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

`export_points_file`

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- `export_points_file`

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- `export_points_file`
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
    annotated
freeform
```

Keywords Area
- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- sbo
- export_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior
The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

ego
```

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
## 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>gaussian_process</td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>use_derivatives</td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

In the case of `ego`, the efficient global optimization (EGO) method is used to calculate bounds. By default, the Surfpack GP (Kriging) model is used, but the Dakota implementation may be selected instead. If `use_derivatives` is specified the GP model will be built using available derivative data (Surfpack GP only). See `efficient_global` for more information.

**gaussian_process**
- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_interval_est**
- **ego**
- **gaussian_process**

Gaussian Process surrogate model

### Specification

**Alias:** kriging  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<th>Required/-Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>surfpack</td>
<td>Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
**Description**

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the `surfpack` keyword. A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the `dakota` version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

```
surfpack
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_interval_est**
- **ego**
- **gaussian_process**
- **surfpack**

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack. Several user options are available:

1. **Optimization methods:**

   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See `optimization_method`.

   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the `max_trials` keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. **Trend Function:**

   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See `trend`.

3. **Correlation Lengths:**

   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See `correlation_lengths`. 
4. Ill-conditioning

One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.

Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.

The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using

5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).

The use_derivatives keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).

See notes in the Theory section.

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

dakota

• Keywords Area
• method
• global_interval_est
• ego
• gaussian_process
• dakota

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. **For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.**

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the **gaussian process** dakota model can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a **point_selection** option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the **point_selection** option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

use_derivatives

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- ego
- use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The **use_derivatives** flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.
6.2. METHOD

import_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- ego
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

Default Behavior
Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

Usage Tips
Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

Examples

```
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```
annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- ego
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```
6.2. METHOD

freeform

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- ego
- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior
The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
freeform
active_only
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_interval_est
  • ego
  • import_points_file
  • active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  • file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword active_only indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

export_points_file
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_interval_est
  • ego
  • export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING
File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

- **annotated**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **global_interval_est**
  - **ego**
  - **export_points_file**
  - **annotated**

Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:

- **fileFormats**

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

**Usage Tips**
Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

freeform

  Keywords Area

  method

  global_interval_est

  ego

  export_points_file

  freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

ea
  Keywords Area
  method
  global_interval_est
  ea

Use an evolutionary algorithm
```

Description

In this approach, the evolutionary algorithm from Coliny, coliny_ea, is used to perform the interval optimization with no surrogate model involved. Again, this option of ea can support interval optimization over discrete variables.

```
lhs
  Keywords Area
  method
  global_interval_est
  lhs

Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables
```

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

enthought/easyensemble
Description

The *lhs* keyword invokes Latin Hypercube Sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions. This is a stratified, space-filling approach that selects variable values from a set of equi-probable bins.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Latin Hypercube Sampling is used. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the *lhs* keyword must appear in conjunction with the *sample_type* keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Latin Hypercube Sampling is very robust and can be applied to any problem. It is fairly effective at estimating the mean of model responses and linear correlations with a reasonably small number of samples relative to the number of variables.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method  
sampling  
  sample_type lhs  
  samples = 20
```

**rng**

- *Keywords Area*
- *method*
- *global_interval_est*
- *rng*

  Selection of a random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>rng</em></td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The *rng* keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**
If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**
The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

**Examples**

```bash
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2
```

**mt19937**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_interval_est**
- **rng**
- **mt19937**

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

**Description**

The `mt19937` keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

`mt19937` is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended.

**Examples**

```bash
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng mt19937
```
rnum2

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- rng
- rnum2

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The *rnum2* keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

*rnum2* is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the *rng* keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (*mt19937*) is recommended over *rnum2*.

**Examples**

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

**samples**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_interval_est
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
6.2. METHOD

Description

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( dim+1 \) samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \( (dim+1)(dim+2)/2 \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10 \times dim \) samples. For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be \( N \times (dim+2) \).

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

**seed**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_interval_est**
- **seed**

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

Description

The random `seed` control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**

If `seed` is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**

If a stochastic study was run without `seed` specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

model_pointer
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_interval_est
  • model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
  • block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.
See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
6.2. METHOD

```python
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
    samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
    id_interface = 'I1'
    system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
    response_functions = 3
    no_gradients
    no_hessians
```

6.2.61 bayes_calibration

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration

Bayesian calibration

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration
- package_queso
Specification

Alias: nond_bayes_calibration

Argument(s): none
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>queso</td>
<td>Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithms from the QUESO package</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>gpmsa</td>
<td>(Experimental) Gaussian Process Models for Simulation Analysis (GPMSA) Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm with Gaussian Process Surrogate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dream</td>
<td>DREAM (DiffeRential Evolution Adaptive Metropolis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>use_derivatives</td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>likelihood_scale</td>
<td>Scale the log-likelihood function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>calibrate_sigma</td>
<td>Calibrate the ( \sigma ) term(s) in the likelihood function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Optional

| model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

**Description**

Currently, we are in the process of incorporating Bayesian calibration methods in Dakota. These methods take prior information on parameter values (in the form of prior distributions) and observational data (e.g. from experiments) and produce posterior distributions on the parameter values. When the computational simulation is then executed with samples from the posterior parameter distributions, the results that are produced are consistent with ("agree with") the experimental data. In the case of calibrating parameters from a computational simulation model, we require a "likelihood function" that specifies the likelihood of observing a particular observation given the model and its associated parameterization. We assume a Gaussian likelihood function currently. The algorithms that produce the posterior distributions on model parameters are Monte Carlo Markov Chain (MCMC) sampling algorithms. MCMC methods require many samples, often tens of thousands, so in the case of model calibration, often emulators of the computational simulation are used. For more details on the algorithms underlying the methods, see the Dakota User’s manual.

We have three Bayesian calibration methods under development in Dakota: one called QUESO, one called DREAM, and one called GPMSA. They are specified with the `bayes_calibration queso`, `bayes_calibration dream`, or `bayes_calibration gpmsa`, respectively. The QUESO method uses components from the QUESO library (Quantification of Uncertainty for Estimation, Simulation, and Optimization) developed at The University of Texas at Austin. We are using a DRAM (Delayed Rejected Adaptive Metropolis) algorithm for the MCMC sampling from the QUESO library. DREAM (DiffeRential Evolution Adaptive Metropolis) is a method that runs multiple different chains simultaneously for global exploration, and automatically tunes the proposal covariance during the process by a self-adaptive randomized subspace sampling. \[87\] "Vrugt et al. 2009". GPMSA (Gaussian Process Models for Simulation Analysis) is a code that has been developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory. It uses Gaussian process models as part of constructing an emulator for the expensive computational simulation. GPMSA also has extensive features for calibration, such as the capability to include a "model discrepancy" term and the capability to model functional data such as time series data.

As mentioned above, the Bayesian capability in Dakota currently relies on the QUESO library developed by The University of Texas at Austin. This integrated capability is still in prototype form and available to close collaborators of the Dakota team. If you are interested in this capability, contact the Dakota developers at dakota-developers@development.sandia.gov.

**queso**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso

Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithms from the QUESO package

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration
6.2. METHOD

- package_queso

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional   |                      | emulator      | Use an emulator or surrogate model to evaluate the likelihood function |
| Optional   |                      | mcmc_type     | Type of MCMC algorithm used (dram or multilevel). |
| Optional   |                      | rng           | Selection of a random number generator |
| Optional   |                      | proposal_covariance_scale | Provide values for the diagonals of the proposal covariance matrix. |

Description

For the QUESO method, one can use an emulator in the MCMC sampling. This will greatly improve the speed, since the Monte Carlo Markov Chain will generate thousands of samples on the emulator instead of the real simulation code. However, in the case of fast running evaluations, we recommend the use of no emulator. An emulator may be specified with the keyword emulator, followed by a gaussian_process emulator, a pce emulator (polynomial chaos expansion), or a sc emulator (stochastic collocation). For the gaussian_process emulator, the user must specify whether to use the surfpack or dakota version of the Gaussian process. The user can define the number of samples emulator_samples from which the emulator should be built. It is also possible to build the Gaussian process from points read in from the import_points_file and to export approximation-based sample evaluations using export_points_file. For pce or sc, the user can define a sparse_grid_level.

In terms of the MCMC sampling, one can specify the following for the QUESO method: With the metropolis type, we have the options hastings for a standard Metropolis-Hastings algorithm, or adaptive for the adaptive Metropolis in which the covariance of the proposal density is updated adaptively. For the delayed rejection part of the DRAM algorithm, one specifies rejection, followed by standard (no delayed rejection) or delayed. Finally, the user has two scale factors which help control the scaling involved in the problem. The likelihood_scale is a number which scales the likelihood by dividing the log of the likelihood (e.g. dividing the sum of squared differences between the experimental data and simulation data or SSE). This is useful for situations with very small likelihoods (e.g. the model is either very far away from the data or there is a lot of data so the likelihood function involves multiplying many likelihoods together, where the SSE term is large and the likelihood becomes very small). In some respects, the likelihood_scale can be seen as a normalizing factor for the SSE. If the SSE is large, the likelihood_scale should be large. The second factor is a proposal_covariance_scale. This allows the user to specify the diagonal values of the proposal covariance matrix. This may be useful when the input variables being calibrated are of different magnitudes: one may want to take
a larger step in a direction with a larger magnitude, for example. The proposal covariance scale should be followed by a list of the size of the number of parameters being calibrated, with values for the proposal covariance diagonal for each. Finally, we offer the option to calibrate the sigma terms with the calibrate sigma flag. The sigma terms refer to the error associated with the Gaussian process: sigma is used in the likelihood calculation. If experimental measurement error is available to inform sigma, that is very useful, but often measurement uncertainty is not available. Note that if calibrate sigma is specified, a separate sigma term will be calibrated for each calibration term. Thus, if there are 50 calibration terms (e.g. experimental points against which we are trying to match the model), 50 sigma values will be added to the calibration process. Calibration of the sigma values is turned off by default: only the design parameters are calibrated in default mode.

**emulator**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator

Use an emulator or surrogate model to evaluate the likelihood function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>gaussian_process</td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pce</td>
<td>Use a Polynomial Chaos Expansion surrogate model</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sc</td>
<td>Use Stochastic Collocation to generate a polynomial surrogate model</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

This keyword describes the type of emulator used when calculating the likelihood function for the Bayesian calibration. The emulator can be a Gaussian process, polynomial chaos expansion, or stochastic collocation.

**gaussian_process**

- Keywords Area
- method
6.2. METHOD

- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- gaussian_process

Gaussian Process surrogate model

Specification

**Alias:** kriging
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>surfpack</td>
<td>Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Optional          |                       | emulator_samples | Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator |
|                   |                       | import_points_file | File containing variable values and corresponding responses |
| Optional          |                       | export_points_file | Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model |

**Description**

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the `surfpack` keyword. A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota.

For now, both versions are supported but the `dakota` version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

**surfpack**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- emulator
- gaussian_process
- surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack.

Several user options are available:

1. **Optimization methods:**
   
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See optimization_method.
   
   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the max_trials keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. **Trend Function:**
   
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See trend.

3. **Correlation Lengths:**
   
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See correlation_lengths.

4. **Ill-conditioning**
   
   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.
   
   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.
   
   The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using

5. **Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).**
   
   The use_derivatives keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).
   
   See notes in the Theory section.
6.2. METHOD

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

dakota

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- dakota

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the gaussian_process dakota model can be found in[59].
Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a point_selection option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the point_selection option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

**emulator_samples**
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- qeso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- emulator_samples

Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

This keyword refers to the number of build points or training points used to construct a Gaussian process emulator. If the user specifies a number of emulator_samples that is less than the minimum number of points required to build the GP surrogate, Dakota will augment the samples to obtain the minimum required.

**import_points_file**
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- qeso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>freeform</th>
<th>Denotes freeform file format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'

annotated
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
    annotated

freeform
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior
The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
active_only
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- import_points_file
- active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file Formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

```
export_points_file
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| freeform | Denotes freeform file format |

### Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

- **annotated**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - bayes_calibration
  - queso
  - emulator
  - gaussian_process
  - export_points_file
  - annotated

Denotes annotated file format

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
    list_parameter_study
        import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
        annotated

freeform
```

Keywords Area

method

\textit{bayes}\_\textit{calibration}

\textit{queso}

\textit{emulator}

\textit{gaussian}\_\textit{process}

\textit{export}\_\textit{points}\_\textit{file}

\textit{freeform}

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

\textit{file}\_\textit{formats}

Specification

\textbf{Alias:} none

\textbf{Argument(s):} none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num\_\textit{rows} \times num\_\textit{cols} total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

\textbf{Default Behavior}

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the \textit{freeform} keyword must be used in conjunction with the \textit{import_points_file} keyword.

Usage Tips
6.2. METHOD

• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
freeform
```

`pce`

• Keywords Area

• method

• bayes_calibration

• queso

• emulator

• pce

Use a Polynomial Chaos Expansion surrogate model

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional   |                     | sparse_grid_level | Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids |

Description

This specifies the use of a polynomial chaos expansion (PCE) model to be used as a surrogate model in the likelihood calculations used in the Bayesian computations. When using PCE as a surrogate within the Bayesian framework, the build points (training points) for the PCE are constructed from a sparse grid.
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- polynomial_chaos

sparse_grid_level

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- pce
- sparse_grid_level

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using sparse grids

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGRALIST

Description

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.
6.2. METHOD

sc

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- sc

Use Stochastic Collocation to generate a polynomial surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>sparse_grid_level</td>
<td>Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

This specifies the use of a stochastic collocation (SC) model to be used as a surrogate model in the likelihood calculations used in the Bayesian computations. When using SC as a surrogate within the Bayesian framework, the build points (training points) for the stochastic collocation are constructed from a sparse grid.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- stoch_collocation

- sparse_grid_level

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- emulator
- sc
• sparse_grid_level

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using sparse grids

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

**mcmc_type**

• Keywords Area

• method

• bayes_calibration

• queso

• mcmc_type

Type of MCMC algorithm used (dram or multilevel).

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• bayesian_calibration
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
### Description

The type of Markov Chain Monte Carlo used. There are two types currently: DRAM (Delayed Rejection Adaptive Metropolis) and multi-level. DRAM is described in [[39] "Haario et al. 2006"]). The multilevel algorithm is described in [[71] "Prudencio and Cheung, 2012"]).

**dram**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- mcmc_type
- dram

MCMC type

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>rejection</td>
<td>Select the rejection type used in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Optional | metropolis
Choose the sampler for Markov Chain Monte Carlo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword standard</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description Select standard rejection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>delayed</td>
<td>Select delayed rejection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Use of the Delayed Rejection Adaptive Metropolis algorithm (dram).

rejection

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- mcmc_type
- dram
- rejection

Select the rejection type used in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Specification of the rejection type used in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm. The rejection type has two options: standard or delayed. Standard rejection involves no delayed rejection, while delayed involves a delay in rejecting samples in the MCMC chain. Delayed rejection plus adaptive metropolis is the DRAM algorithm.

standard

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
**Keywords Area**

- mcmc
- dram
- rejection
- standard

Select standard rejection

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The use of a standard rejection approach in the Monte Carlo Markov Chain algorithm.

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The use of a delayed approach in rejecting points in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm. If proposed samples are rejected, they are not immediately rejected: they are considered for a few more stages until finally accepted or rejected.
6.2. METHOD

metropolis
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- mcmc_type
- dram
- metropolis

Choose the sampler for Markov Chain Monte Carlo

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hastings</td>
<td></td>
<td>adaptive</td>
<td>Type of Metropolis algorithm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
The specification of the algorithm which governs the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm used. There currently are two options for metropolis:
- the option hastings specifies a standard Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
- the option adaptive specifies the adaptive Metropolis in which the covariance of the proposal density is updated adaptively.

hastings
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- queso
- mcmc_type
- dram
- metropolis
- hastings

Select the Metropolis-Hastings sampler
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The use of the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm.

adaptive
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes.calibration
- qeso
- mcmc.type
- dram
- metropolis
- adaptive
Type of Metropolis algorithm

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- bayesian.calibration

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Type of Metropolis algorithm used in DRAM.

multilevel
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes.calibration
- qeso
- mcmc.type
- multilevel
Type of MCMC algorithm
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- bayesian_calibration

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Use of the multilevel MCMC approach described in [[71] "Prudencio and Cheung, 2012"].

rng
- Keywords Area
- method
- bayesian_calibration
- queso
- rng
Selection of a random number generator

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required/Group 1</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
The rng keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

Default Behavior
If specified, the rng keyword must be accompanied by either rnum2 (pseudo-random numbers) or mt19937 (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, mt19937, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

Usage Tips
The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.
Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2

mt19937
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • bayes_calibration
  • queso
  • rng
  • mt19937

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister.

Default Behavior
mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

Usage Tips
Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937

rnum2
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • bayes_calibration
6.2. METHOD

- **queso**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `rnum2` keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

`rnum2` is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended over `rnum2`.

**Examples**

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```

**proposal_covariance_scale**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes_calibration**
- **queso**

- **proposal_covariance_scale**

  Provide values for the diagonals of the proposal covariance matrix.

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **bayesian_calibration**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
Description

This keyword allows the user to specify the proposal covariance matrix for the Monte Carlo Markov Chain algorithm used in Bayesian calibration. The `proposal_covariance_scale` should be followed by a number of terms equal to the number of variables being calibrated. Each particular value represents an estimate of the variance in that particular parameter. This proposal covariance is taken to be the covariance governing a multivariate normal distribution. Samples are generated from this distribution in the MCMC process. Thus, this proposal covariance is critical in determining how big the step sizes are in the MCMC chain.

This keyword scales the values on the diagonal of the proposal covariance and may be useful when the input variables being calibrated are of different magnitudes: one may want to take a larger step in a direction with a larger magnitude, for example. The proposal covariance is a list of reals, one for each variable.

**gpmsa**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa

*(Experimental) Gaussian Process Models for Simulation Analysis (GPMSA) Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm with Gaussian Process Surrogate*

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_queso
- bayesian_calibration

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>emulator_samples</td>
<td>Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| Optional | export_points_file | Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model (Experimental) Type of MCMC algorithm used (dram or multilevel). Selection of a random number generator |
| Optional | mcmc_type | |
| Optional | rng | |
| Optional | proposal_-covariance_scale | Provide values for the diagonals of the proposal covariance matrix. |

Description

GPMSA (Gaussian Process Models for Simulation Analysis) is another approach that provides the capability for Bayesian calibration. The GPMSA implementation currently is an experimental capability and not ready for production use at this time. A key part of GPMSA is the construction of an emulator from simulation runs collected at various settings of input parameters. The emulator is a statistical model of the system response, and it is used to incorporate the observational data to improve system predictions and constrain or calibrate the unknown parameters. The GPMSA code draws heavily on the theory developed in the seminal Bayesian calibration paper by Kennedy and O’Hagan [[56] "Kennedy and O’Hagan 2001"] . The particular approach in GPMSA has been developed by the Los Alamos group and document in [[48] "Higdon et al. 2008"]. GPMSA uses Gaussian process models in the emulation, but the emulator is actually a set of basis functions (e.g. from a singular value decomposition) which have GPs as the coefficients.

For the GPMSA method, one can define the number of samples which will be used in construction of the emulator, emulator_samples. The emulator involves Gaussian processes in GPMSA, so the user does not specify anything about emulator type. At this point, the only controls active for GPMSA are emulator_samples, seed and rng, and samples (the number of MCMC samples). NOTE: the GPMSA method is in a very preliminary, prototype state at this time.

emulator_samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa
- emulator_samples

Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

This keyword refers to the number of build points or training points used to construct a Gaussian process emulator. If the user specifies a number of emulator.samples that is less than the minimum number of points required to build the GP surrogate, Dakota will augment the samples to obtain the minimum required.

import_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required-/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freeform</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>active_only</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The import_points_file allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

Default Behavior
  Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

Usage Tips
  Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the import_points_file must be in one of two formats:
6.2. METHOD

- annotated (default)
- freeform

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.
Examples

```python
method
    list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated
```

**freeform**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes.calibration**
- **gpmsa**
- **import_points_file**
- **freeform**

Denotes freeform file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the **freeform** keyword must be used in conjunction with the **import_points_file** keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though **freeform** remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```python
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
freeform

active_only
  * Keywords Area
  * method
  * bayes_calibration
  * gpmsa
  * import_points_file
  * active_only
  Import only active variables from tabular data file
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

* file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

`export_points_file`

* Keywords Area
  * method
  * bayes_calibration
  * gpmsa
  * `export_points_file`
  Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Opt Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

- **annotated**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - bayes_calibration
  - gpmsa
  - export_points_file
  - annotated

  Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**
6.2. METHOD

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

  freeform
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • bayes_calibration
  • gpmsa
  • export_points_file
  • freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
    freeform
```

**mcmc_type**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa
- mcmc_type

  (Experimental) Type of MCMC algorithm used (dram or multilevel).

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>dram</td>
<td>(Experimental) Specification of DRAM as the MCMC type in GPMSA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. **METHOD**

| multilevel | (Experimental) Specification of multilevel sampling as the MCMC type in GPMSA. |

**Description**

The `mcmc_type` currently is not able to be specified in GPMSA: it is an experimental capability and not ready for production use at this time.

- **dram**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **method**
  - **bayes_calibration**
  - **gpmsa**
  - **mcmc_type**
  - **dram**

(Experimental) Specification of DRAM as the MCMC type in GPMSA

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **bayesian_calibration**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>rejection</td>
<td>Select the rejection type used in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>metropolis</td>
<td>Choose the sampler for Markov Chain Monte Carlo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

GPMSA is an experimental capability and not ready for production use at this time. The MCMC type specification is not available in GPMSA currently.
Select the rejection type used in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>standard</td>
<td>Select standard rejection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Specification of the rejection type used in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm. The rejection type has two options: standard or delayed. Standard rejection involves no delayed rejection, while delayed involves a delay in rejecting samples in the MCMC chain. Delayed rejection plus adaptive metropolis is the DRAM algorithm.

**standard**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa
- mcmc_type
- dram
- rejection
- standard

Select standard rejection
6.2. METHOD

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The use of a standard rejection approach in the Monte Carlo Markov Chain algorithm.

```
delayed
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes\_calibration
- gpmsa
- mcmc\_type
- dram
- rejection
- delayed

Select delayed rejection

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian\_calibration

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The use of a delayed approach in rejecting points in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm. If proposed samples are rejected, they are not immediately rejected: they are considered for a few more stages until finally accepted or rejected.

```
metropolis
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes\_calibration
- gpmsa
Choose the sampler for Markov Chain Monte Carlo

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required <em>(Choose One)</em></th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>hastings</td>
<td>Select the Metropolis-Hastings sampler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adaptive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Select the adaptive Metropolis sampler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The specification of the algorithm which governs the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm used. There currently are two options for metropolis:

- the option `hastings` specifies a standard Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
- the option `adaptive` specifies the adaptive Metropolis in which the covariance of the proposal density is updated adaptively.

**hastings**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes_calibration**
- **gpmsa**
- **mcmc_type**
- **dram**
- **metropolis**
- **hastings**

Select the Metropolis-Hastings sampler

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description
The use of the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm.

   adaptive
   • Keywords Area
   • method
   • bayes_calibration
   • gpmsa
   • mcmc_type
   • dram
   • metropolis
   • adaptive
   Select the adaptive Metropolis sampler

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The use of an adaptive Metropolis algorithm in the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm, involving adaptive updates to the covariance matrix.

   multilevel
   • Keywords Area
   • method
   • bayes_calibration
   • gpmsa
   • mcmc_type
   • multilevel
   (Experimental) Specification of multilevel sampling as the MCMC type in GPMSA.

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
   • bayesian_calibration
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
GPMSA is an experimental capability and not ready for production use at this time. The MCMC type specification is not available in GPMSA currently.

rng

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- gpmsa
- rng

Selection of a random number generator

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
The rng keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

Default Behavior
If specified, the rng keyword must be accompanied by either rnum2 (pseudo-random numbers) or mt19937 (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, mt19937, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

Usage Tips
The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng rnum2

mt19937
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • bayes_calibration
  • gpmsa
  • rng
  • mt19937

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister
```

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

The mt19937 keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister.

Default Behavior

mt19937 is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the rng keyword.

Usage Tips

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended.

Examples

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765
  rng mt19937

rnum2
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • bayes_calibration
```
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

- **gpmsa**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

**Description**

The `rnum2` keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

`rnum2` is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (mt19937) is recommended over `rnum2`.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
  rng rnum2

proposal_covariance_scale

  Keywords Area
  method
  bayes_calibration
  gpmsa
  proposal_covariance_scale

  Provide values for the diagonals of the proposal covariance matrix.
```

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **bayesian_calibration**

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: REALLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

This keyword allows the user to specify the proposal covariance matrix for the Monte Carlo Markov Chain algorithm used in Bayesian calibration. The `proposal_covariance.scale` should be followed by a number of terms equal to the number of variables being calibrated. Each particular value represents an estimate of the variance in that particular parameter. This proposal covariance is taken to be the covariance governing a multivariate normal distribution. Samples are generated from this distribution in the MCMC process. Thus, this proposal covariance is critical in determining how big the step sizes are in the MCMC chain.

This keyword scales the values on the diagonal of the proposal covariance and may be useful when the input variables being calibrated are of different magnitudes: one may want to take a larger step in a direction with a larger magnitude, for example. The proposal covariance is a list of reals, one for each variable.

dream

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream

DREAM (DiffeRential Evolution Adaptive Metropolis)

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>chains</td>
<td>num_cr</td>
<td>Number of chains in DREAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_cr</td>
<td>crossover_chain_pairs</td>
<td>Number of candidate points for each crossover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>crossover_chain_pairs</td>
<td>gr_threshold</td>
<td>Number of chains used in crossover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>gr_threshold</td>
<td></td>
<td>Convergence tolerance for the Gelman-Rubin statistic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

The DiffeRential Evolution Adaptive Metropolis algorithm is described in [[87] "Vrugt et al. 2009"]'). For the DREAM method, one can define the number of chains used with chains. The total number of generations per chain in DREAM is the number of samples(samples) divided by the number of chains(chains). The minimum number of chains is three. The number of chains randomly selected to be used in the crossover each time a crossover occurs is crossover_chain_pairs. There is an extra adaptation during burn-in, in which DREAM estimates a distribution of crossover probabilities that favors large jumps over smaller ones in each of the chains. Normalization is required to ensure that all of the input dimensions contribute equally. In this process, a discrete number of candidate points for each crossover value is generated. This parameter is num_cr. The gr_threshold is the convergence tolerance for the Gelman-Rubin statistic which will govern the convergence of the multiple chain process. The integer jump_step forces a long jump every jump_step generations. For more details about these parameters, see [[87] "Vrugt et al. 2009"].

chains

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- chains

Number of chains in DREAM

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

Number of chains in DREAM
6.2. METHOD

num_cr

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- num_cr

Number of candidate points for each crossover.

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

In DREAM, there is an extra adaptation during burn-in, in which DREAM estimates a distribution of crossover probabilities that favors large jumps over smaller ones in each of the chains. Normalization is required to ensure that all of the input dimensions contribute equally. In this process, a discrete number of candidate points for each crossover value is generated. This parameter is num_cr.

crossover_chain_pairs

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
  - crossover_chain_pairs

Number of chains used in crossover.

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The number of chains randomly selected to be used in the crossover each time a crossover occurs.

gr_threshold

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- gr_threshold

Convergence tolerance for the Gelman-Rubin statistic

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description
The gr_threshold is the convergence tolerance for the Gelman-Rubin statistic which will govern the convergence of the multiple chain process.

jump_step

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- jump_step

Number of generations a long jump step is taken

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- bayesian_calibration
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The integer jump_step forces a long jump every jump_step generations in DREAM.

emulator

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator

Use an emulator or surrogate model to evaluate the likelihood function

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>gaussian_process</td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate model</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- pce
  - Use a polynomial chaos expansion as a surrogate for the truth model when performing Bayesian inference.

- sc
  - Use a sparse grid as a surrogate for the truth model when performing Bayesian inference.

Description

This keyword describes the type of emulator used when calculating the likelihood function for the Bayesian calibration. The emulator can be a Gaussian process, polynomial chaos expansion, or stochastic collocation.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

**gaussian_process**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes_calibration**
- **dream**
- **emulator**
- **gaussian_process**

Gaussian Process surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** kriging  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>surfpack</td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>emulator_samples</th>
<th>Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>import_points_file</th>
<th>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>export_points_file</th>
<th>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Description**

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the **surfpack** keyword.

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota.

For now, both versions are supported but the **dakota** version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.
6.2. METHOD

surfpack

• Keywords Area
• method
• bayes_calibration
• dream
• emulator
• gaussian_process
• surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack.

Several user options are available:

1. Optimization methods:

   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See optimization_method.

   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the max_trials keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. Trend Function:

   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See trend.

3. Correlation Lengths:

   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See correlation_lengths.

4. Ill-conditioning

   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.

   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.

   The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using
5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).

The `use_derivatives` keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).

See notes in the Theory section.

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

dakota

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- dakota

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
6.2. METHOD

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. **For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.**

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the [gaussian_process dakota model](#) can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a [point_selection option](#) (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the [point_selection option](#) of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

```plaintext
emulator_samples
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- emulator_samples

Number of data points used to train the surrogate model or emulator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

This keyword refers to the number of build points or training points used to construct a Gaussian process emulator. If the user specifies a number of `emulator_samples` that is less than the minimum number of points required to build the GP surrogate, Dakota will augment the samples to obtain the minimum required.
import_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional&lt;br&gt;(Choose One)</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td></td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```python
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = ‘dakota_pstudy.3.dat’
```
6.2. METHOD

annotated

• Keywords Area
• method
• bayes_calibration
• dream
• emulator
• gaussian_process
• import_points_file
• annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated
freeform

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior
The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = ‘dakota_pstudy.7.dat’
freeform
6.2. METHOD

active_only

• Keywords Area
• method
• bayes_calibration
• dream
• emulator
• gaussian_process
• import_points_file
• active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword active_only indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional(Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- gaussian_process
- export_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples
```
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated
freeform
```

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows \times \text{num_cols} total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
    freeform

pce

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- pce
```

Use a polynomial chaos expansion as a surrogate for the truth model when performing Bayesian inference.

**Specification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td><code>sparse_grid_level</code></td>
<td><code>sparse_grid_level</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

Use a polynomial chaos expansion as a surrogate for the truth model when performing Bayesian inference.

```plaintext
sparse_grid_level

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- dream
- emulator
- pce
- sparse_grid_level
```

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using sparse grids

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.
Use a sparse grid as a surrogate for the truth model when performing Bayesian inference.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>sparse_grid_level</strong></td>
<td>Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Use a sparse grid as a surrogate for the truth model when performing Bayesian inference.

**sparse_grid_level**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes_calibration**
- **dream**
- **emulator**
- **sc**
- **sparse_grid_level**

Set the maximum sparse grid level to be used when performing sparse grid integration Cubature using spare grids.
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Multi-dimensional integration by the Smolyak sparse grid method (specified with sparse_grid_level and, optionally, dimension_preference). The underlying one-dimensional integration rules are the same as for the tensor-product quadrature case; however, the default rule selection is nested for sparse grids (Genz-Keister for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Patterson for uniforms/transformed uniforms). This default can be overridden with an explicit non_nested specification (resulting in Gauss-Hermite for normals/transformed normals and Gauss-Legendre for uniforms/transformed uniforms). As for tensor quadrature, the dimension_preference specification enables the use of anisotropic sparse grids (refer to the PCE description in the User’s Manual for the anisotropic index set constraint definition). Similar to anisotropic tensor grids, the dimension with greatest preference will have resolution at the full sparse_grid_level and all other dimension resolutions will be reduced in proportion to their reduced preference. For PCE with either isotropic or anisotropic sparse grids, a summation of tensor-product expansions is used, where each anisotropic tensor-product quadrature rule underlying the sparse grid construction results in its own anisotropic tensor-product expansion as described in case 1. These anisotropic tensor-product expansions are summed into a sparse PCE using the standard Smolyak summation (again, refer to the User’s Manual for additional details). As for quadrature_order, the sparse_grid_level specification admits an array input for enabling specification of multiple grid resolutions used by certain advanced solution methodologies.

This keyword can be used when using sparse grid integration to calculate PCE coefficients or when generating samples for sparse grid collocation.

**use_derivatives**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes_calibration**
- **use_derivatives**

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The use_derivatives flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.
Chapter 6. Keywords Area

**likelihood_scale**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- likelihood_scale

Scale the log-likelihood function

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The likelihood_scale is applied to the weighted sum-squared error term which is used in the log-likelihood function. The log-likelihood is \(-0.5 \times \text{the weighted sum-squared errors/the likelihood scale}\). Thus, if the sum-squared errors is on the order of \(1E+12\), you will want to make the likelihood scale on the order of \(1E+12\) or \(1E+11\). Similarly, if the weighted sum-squared errors is very small, the likelihood scale should be very small. **Note that applying a likelihood scale changes the formulation of the calibration problem.** At this point, we only recommend using it for problems that are poorly conditioned and for which the MCMC is not working without applying some type of scaling.

**calibrate_sigma**

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- calibrate_sigma

Calibrate the sigma term(s) in the likelihood function

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This feature allows one to calibrate the observational error (the sigma terms) as well as the model parameters.
6.2. METHOD

samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

Usage Tips

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least dim+1 samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least (dim+1)(dim+2)/2 samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least 10*dim samples. For variance-based_decomp, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for variance-based_decomp, the number of simulations performed will be N*(dim+2).

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

seed

- Keywords Area
- method
- bayes_calibration
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

**Default Behavior**
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

**Expected Output**
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

**Usage Tips**
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

**Examples**
```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **bayes_calibration**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**
**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

**Usage Tips**
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative. See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SRR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians
```

### 6.2.62 dace

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_ddace
- design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong>*(Choose One)*</td>
<td>grid</td>
<td>random</td>
<td>Grid Sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oas</td>
<td>Orthogonal Array Sampling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lhs</td>
<td>Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oa_lhs</td>
<td>Orthogonal Array Latin Hypercube Sampling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>box_behnken</td>
<td>Box-Behnken Design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>central_composite</td>
<td>Central Composite Design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>main_effects</td>
<td>ANOVA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>quality_metrics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **dace**

Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments
### Description

The Distributed Design and Analysis of Computer Experiments (DDACE) library provides the following DACE techniques:

1. grid sampling (*grid*)
2. pure random sampling (*random*)
3. orthogonal array sampling (*oas*)
4. latin hypercube sampling (*lhs*)
5. orthogonal array latin hypercube sampling (*oa_lhs*)
6. Box-Behnken (*box_behnken*)
7. central composite design (*central_composite*)

These methods all generate point sets that may be used to drive a set of computer experiments. Note that all of the DACE methods generated randomized designs, except for Box-Behnken and Central composite which are classical designs. That is, the grid sampling will generate a randomized grid, not what one typically thinks of as a grid of uniformly spaced points over a rectangular grid. Similar, the orthogonal array is a randomized version of an orthogonal array: it does not generate discrete, fixed levels.

In addition to the selection of the method, there are keywords that affect the method outputs:

#### Keywords

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>variance_based_decomp</td>
<td>Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fixed_seed</td>
<td>Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>symbols</td>
<td>Number of replications in the sample set Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. main_effects
2. quality_metrics
3. variance_based_decomp

And keywords that affect the sampling:
1. fixed_seed
2. symbols
3. samples
4. seed

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:
- fsu_cvt
- fsu_quasi_mc
- psuade_moat

grid
- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- grid

Grid Sampling

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
The grid option in DACE will produce a randomized grid of points. If you are interested in a regular grid of points, use the multidimensional parameter study (under Parameter Studies) instead. Grid Sampling

random
- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- random

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `random` keyword invokes Monte Carlo sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions.

**Default Behavior**

Monte Carlo sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the `random` keyword must be specified in conjunction with the `sample_type` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Monte Carlo sampling is more computationally expensive than Latin Hypercube Sampling as it requires a larger number of samples to accurately estimate statistics.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 200
```

**oas**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dace**
- **oas**

Orthogonal Array Sampling

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Orthogonal array sampling (OAS) is a widely used technique for running experiments and systematically testing factor effects. An orthogonal array sample can be described as a 4-tuple \((m; n; s; r)\), where \(m\) is the number of sample points, \(n\) is the number of input variables, \(s\) is the number of symbols, and \(r\) is the strength of the orthogonal array. The number of sample points, \(m\), must be a multiple of the number of symbols, \(s\). The number of symbols refers to the number of levels per input variable. The strength refers to the number of columns where we are guaranteed to see all the possibilities an equal number of times. Note that the DACE OAS capability produces a randomized orthogonal array: the samples for a particular level are randomized within that level.

If one examines the sample sets in an orthogonal array by looking at the rows as individual samples and columns as the variables sampled, one sees that the columns are orthogonal to each other in an orthogonal array. This feature is important in main effects analysis, which is a sensitivity analysis technique that identifies which variables have the most influence on the output.
**lhs**

- **Keywords Area**

- **method**

- **dace**

- **lhs**

  Uses Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS) to sample variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `lhs` keyword invokes Latin Hypercube Sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions. This is a stratified, space-filling approach that selects variable values from a set of equi-probable bins.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Latin Hypercube Sampling is used. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the `lhs` keyword must appear in conjunction with the `sample_type` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Latin Hypercube Sampling is very robust and can be applied to any problem. It is fairly effective at estimating the mean of model responses and linear correlations with a reasonably small number of samples relative to the number of variables.

**Examples**

```
method
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 20
```

**oa_lhs**

- **Keywords Area**

- **method**

- **dace**

- **oa_lhs**

  Orthogonal Array Latin Hypercube Sampling

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description
The Orthogonal Array Latin Hypercube Sampling option in DACE produces a “latinized” version of an orthogonal array. That is, after the orthogonal array is generated, the samples go through a stratification process to produce samples that have been both orthogonalized and stratified.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:
- oas
- box
- behnken

box_behnken
- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- box_behnken

Box-Behnken Design

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
The Box-Behnken design is similar to a Central Composite design, with some differences. The Box-Behnken design is a quadratic design in that it does not contain an embedded factorial or fractional factorial design. In this design the treatment combinations are at the midpoints of edges of the process space and at the center, as compared with CCD designs where the extra points are placed at star points on a circle outside of the process space. Box-Behnken designs are rotatable (or near rotatable) and require 3 levels of each factor.

central_composite
- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- central_composite

Central Composite Design

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
**Description**

A central composite design (CCD), contains an embedded factorial or fractional factorial design with a center points that is augmented with a group of ”star points” that allow estimation of curvature.

**Examples**

See the User’s Manual for an example.

**main_effects**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dace**
- **main_effects**

ANOVA

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The **main_effects** control prints Analysis-of-Variance main effects results (e.g. ANOVA tables with p-values per variable). The **main_effects** control is only operational with the orthogonal arrays or Latin Hypercube designs, not for Box Behnken or Central Composite designs.

Main effects is a sensitivity analysis method which identifies the input variables that have the most influence on the output. In main effects, the idea is to look at the mean of the response function when variable A (for example) is at level 1 vs. when variable A is at level 2 or level 3. If these mean responses of the output are statistically significantly different at different levels of variable A, this is an indication that variable A has a significant effect on the response. The orthogonality of the columns is critical in performing main effects analysis, since the column orthogonality means that the effects of the other variables ”cancel out” when looking at the overall effect from one variable at its different levels.

**quality_metrics**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dace**
- **quality_metrics**

Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples
6.2. METHOD

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_fsdace

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
quality_metrics calculates four quality metrics relating to the volumetric spacing of the samples. The four quality metrics measure different aspects relating to the uniformity of point samples in hypercubes. Desirable properties of such point samples are:
- are the points equally spaced
- do the points cover the region
- and are they isotropically distributed
- with no directional bias in the spacing

The four quality metrics we report are:
- h: the point distribution norm, which is a measure of uniformity of the point distribution
- chi: a regularity measure, and provides a measure of local uniformity of a set of points
- tau: the second moment trace measure
- d: the second moment determinant measure

All of these values are scaled so that smaller is better (the smaller the metric, the better the uniformity of the point distribution).

Examples
Complete explanation of these measures can be found in [38] "Gunzburger and Burkardt, 2004.”.

variance_based_decomp
- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- variance_based_decomp

Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>drop_tolerance</td>
<td>Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

Dakota can calculate sensitivity indices through variance based decomposition using the keyword `variance_based_decomp`. These indicate how important the uncertainty in each input variable is in contributing to the output variance.

#### Default Behavior

Because of the computational cost, `variance_based_decomp` is turned off as a default.

If the user specified a number of samples, N, and a number of nondeterministic variables, M, variance-based decomposition requires the evaluation of N*(M+2) samples. **Note that specifying this keyword will increase the number of function evaluations above the number requested with the samples keyword since replicated sets of sample values are evaluated.**

#### Expected Outputs

When `variance_based_decomp` is specified, sensitivity indices for main effects and total effects will be reported. Main effects (roughly) represent the percent contribution of each individual variable to the variance in the model response. Total effects represent the percent contribution of each individual variable in combination with all other variables to the variance in the model response.

#### Usage Tips

To obtain sensitivity indices that are reasonably accurate, we recommend that N, the number of samples, be at least one hundred and preferably several hundred or thousands.

### Examples

```
method,
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 100
    variance_based_decomp
```

### Theory

In this context, we take sensitivity analysis to be global, not local as when calculating derivatives of output variables with respect to input variables. Our definition is similar to that of [Saltelli et al., 2004]: “The study of how uncertainty in the output of a model can be apportioned to different sources of uncertainty in the model input.”

Variance based decomposition is a way of using sets of samples to understand how the variance of the output behaves, with respect to each input variable. A larger value of the sensitivity index, $S_i$, means that the uncertainty in the input variable $i$ has a larger effect on the variance of the output. More details on the calculations and interpretation of the sensitivity indices can be found in [Saltelli et al., 2004] and [Weirs et al., 2010].

### drop_tolerance

- **Keywords Area**
6.2. METHOD

- method
- dace
- variance_based_decomp
- drop_tolerance

Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `drop_tolerance` keyword allows the user to specify a value below which sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are not displayed.

**Default Behavior**

By default, all sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are displayed.

**Usage Tips**

For polynomial chaos, which outputs main, interaction, and total effects by default, the univariate-effects may be a more appropriate option. It allows suppression of the interaction effects since the output volume of these results can be prohibitive for high dimensional problems. Similar to suppression of these interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be diagonal_covariance or full_covariance, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**Examples**

```python
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
drop_tolerance = 0.001
```

**fixed_seed**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **dace**
- **fixed_seed**

Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The fixed_seed flag is relevant if multiple sampling sets will be generated over the course of a Dakota analysis. This occurs when using advance methods (e.g., surrogate-based optimization, optimization under uncertainty). The same seed value is reused for each of these multiple sampling sets, which can be important for reducing variability in the sampling results.

Default Behavior

The default behavior is to not use a fixed seed, as the repetition of the same sampling pattern can result in a modeling weakness that an optimizer could potentially exploit (resulting in actual reliabilities that are lower than the estimated reliabilities). For repeatable studies, the seed must also be specified.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    fixed_seed
```

symbols

- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- symbols

Number of replications in the sample set

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

symbols is related to the number of levels per variable in the sample set (a larger number of symbols equates to more stratification and fewer replications). For example, if symbols = 7, each variable would be divided into seven levels.

samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- dace
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The samples keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

Usage Tips
To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least dim+1 samples should be used, where "dim" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least (dim+1)(dim+2)/2 samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least 10*dim samples. For variance_based_decomp, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for variance-based_decomp, the number of simulations performed will be N*(dim+2).

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20

seed

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • dace
  • seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior
If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output
If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips
If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

`model_pointer`

- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `dace`
- `model_pointer`

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `block_pointer`

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.63 fsu_cvt

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt

Design of Computer Experiments - Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_fsdace
- design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>latinize</td>
<td>Adjust samples to improve the discrepancy of the marginal distributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>quality_metrics</td>
<td>Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>variance_based_decomp</td>
<td>Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>fixed_seed</td>
<td>Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>trial_type</td>
<td>Specify how the trial samples are generated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_trials</td>
<td>The number of secondary sample points generated to adjust the location of the primary sample points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>samples</th>
<th>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>seed</td>
<td>Seed of the random number generator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The FSU Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation method (fsu_cvt) produces a set of sample points that are (approximately) a Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation. The primary feature of such a set of points is that they have good volumetric spacing; the points tend to arrange themselves in a pattern of cells that are roughly the same shape.

To produce this set of points, an almost arbitrary set of initial points is chosen, and then an internal set of iterations is carried out. These iterations repeatedly replace the current set of sample points by an estimate of the centroids of the corresponding Voronoi subregions. [17] “Du, Faber, and Gunzburger, 1999”.

The user may generally ignore the details of this internal iteration. If control is desired, however, there are a few variables with which the user can influence the iteration. The user may specify:

- **max_iterations**, the number of iterations carried out (this is a method independent control, see `max_iterations`)
- **num_trials**, the number of secondary sample points generated to adjust the location of the primary sample points
- **trial_type**, which controls how these secondary sample points are generated

This method generates sets of uniform random variables on the interval [0,1]. If the user specifies lower and upper bounds for a variable, the [0,1] samples are mapped to the [lower, upper] interval.

**Theory**

This method is designed to generate samples with the goal of low discrepancy. Discrepancy refers to the nonuniformity of the sample points within the hypercube.

Discrepancy is defined as the difference between the actual number and the expected number of points one would expect in a particular set B (such as a hyper-rectangle within the unit hypercube), maximized over all such sets. Low discrepancy sequences tend to cover the unit hypercube reasonably uniformly.

Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation does very well volumetrically: it spaces the points fairly equally throughout the space, so that the points cover the region and are isotropically distributed with no directional bias in the point placement. There are various measures of volumetric uniformity which take into account the distances between pairs of points, regularity measures, etc. Note that Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation does not produce low-discrepancy sequences in lower dimensions. The lower-dimension (such as 1-D) projections of Centroidal Voronoi Tessellation can have high discrepancy.
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- dace
- fsu_quasi_mc
- psuade_moat

latinize

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt
- latinize

Adjust samples to improve the discrepancy of the marginal distributions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The latinize control takes the samples and "latinizes" them, meaning that each original sample is moved so that it falls into one strata or bin in each dimension as in Latin Hypercube sampling. The default setting is NOT to latinize. However, one may be interested in doing this in situations where one wants better discrepancy of the 1-dimensional projections (the marginal distributions).

quality_metrics

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt
- quality_metrics

Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_fsudace

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

`quality_metrics` calculates four quality metrics relating to the volumetric spacing of the samples. The four quality metrics measure different aspects relating to the uniformity of point samples in hypercubes. Desirable properties of such point samples are:

- are the points equally spaced
- do the points cover the region
- and are they isotropically distributed
- with no directional bias in the spacing

The four quality metrics we report are:

- h: the point distribution norm, which is a measure of uniformity of the point distribution
- chi: a regularity measure, and provides a measure of local uniformity of a set of points
- tau: the second moment trace measure
- d: the second moment determinant measure

All of these values are scaled so that smaller is better (the smaller the metric, the better the uniformity of the point distribution).

**Examples**

Complete explanation of these measures can be found in [[38] "Gunzburger and Burkardt, 2004."].

**variance_based_decomp**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **fsu_cvt**
- **variance_based_decomp**

Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables.

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Optional | drop_tolerance | Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance |

**Description**

Dakota can calculate sensitivity indices through variance based decomposition using the keyword `variance-based_decomp`. These indicate how important the uncertainty in each input variable is in contributing to the output variance.

**Default Behavior**

Because of the computational cost, `variance_based_decomp` is turned off as a default.

If the user specified a number of samples, N, and a number of nondeterministic variables, M, variance-based decomposition requires the evaluation of $N(M+2)$ samples. **Note that specifying this keyword will increase the number of function evaluations above the number requested with the `samples` keyword since replicated sets of sample values are evaluated.**

**Expected Outputs**

When `variance_based_decomp` is specified, sensitivity indices for main effects and total effects will be reported. Main effects (roughly) represent the percent contribution of each individual variable to the variance in the model response. Total effects represent the percent contribution of each individual variable in combination with all other variables to the variance in the model response.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain sensitivity indices that are reasonably accurate, we recommend that N, the number of samples, be at least one hundred and preferably several hundred or thousands.

**Examples**

```
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
```

**Theory**

In this context, we take sensitivity analysis to be global, not local as when calculating derivatives of output variables with respect to input variables. Our definition is similar to that of [[74] "Saltelli et al., 2004”]: "The study of how uncertainty in the output of a model can be apportioned to different sources of uncertainty in the model input.”

Variance based decomposition is a way of using sets of samples to understand how the variance of the output behaves, with respect to each input variable. A larger value of the sensitivity index, $S_i$, means that the uncertainty in the input variable $i$ has a larger effect on the variance of the output. More details on the calculations and interpretation of the sensitivity indices can be found in [[74] "Saltelli et al., 2004”] and [[88] "Weirs et al., 2010”].

**drop_tolerance**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
6.2. METHOD

- fsu_cvt
- variance_based_decomp
- drop_tolerance

Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

The `drop_tolerance` keyword allows the user to specify a value below which sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are not displayed.

**Default Behavior**

By default, all sensitivity indices generated by `variance_based_decomp` are displayed.

**Usage Tips**

For `polynomial_chaos`, which outputs main, interaction, and total effects by default, the `univariate_effects` may be a more appropriate option. It allows suppression of the interaction effects since the output volume of these results can be prohibitive for high dimensional problems. Similar to suppression of these interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be `diagonal_covariance` or `full_covariance`, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**Examples**

```plaintext
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
  drop_tolerance = 0.001
```

**fixed_seed**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **fsu_cvt**
- **fixed_seed**

Reuses the same seed value for multiple random sampling sets

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The fixed_seed flag is relevant if multiple sampling sets will be generated over the course of a Dakota analysis. This occurs when using advance methods (e.g., surrogate-based optimization, optimization under uncertainty). The same seed value is reused for each of these multiple sampling sets, which can be important for reducing variability in the sampling results.

Default Behavior

The default behavior is to not use a fixed seed, as the repetition of the same sampling pattern can result in a modeling weakness that an optimizer could potentially exploit (resulting in actual reliabilities that are lower than the estimated reliabilities). For repeatable studies, the seed must also be specified.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    fixed_seed
```

trial_type

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt

Specify how the trial samples are generated

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required (Choose One)</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>grid</td>
<td></td>
<td>halton</td>
<td>Generate samples from a Halton sequence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>random</td>
<td>Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The user has the option to specify the method by which the trials are created to adjust the centroids. The trial_type can be one of three types:
6.2. METHOD

- random, where points are generated randomly
- halton, where points are generated according to the Halton sequence
- grid, where points are placed on a regular grid over the hyperspace.

grid

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt
- trial_type
- grid

Samples on a regular grid

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Points are placed on a regular grid over the hyperspace.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:
- trial_type

halton

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt
- trial_type
- halton

Generate samples from a Halton sequence

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- package.fsudace
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The quasi-Monte Carlo sequences of Halton are deterministic sequences determined by a set of prime bases. These sequences generate random numbers with the goal of filling a unit hypercube uniformly. Generally, we recommend that the user leave the default setting for the bases, which are the lowest primes. Thus, if one wants to generate a sample set for 3 random variables, the default bases used are 2, 3, and 5 in the Halton sequence. To give an example of how these sequences look, the Halton sequence in base 2 starts with points 0.5, 0.25, 0.75, 0.125, 0.625, etc. The first few points in a Halton base 3 sequence are 0.33333, 0.66667, 0.11111, 0.44444, 0.77777, etc. Notice that the Halton sequence tends to alternate back and forth, generating a point closer to zero then a point closer to one. An individual sequence is based on a radix inverse function defined on a prime base. The prime base determines how quickly the [0,1] interval is filled in.

Theory


random

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt
- trial_type
- random

Uses purely random Monte Carlo sampling to sample variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The random keyword invokes Monte Carlo sampling as the means of drawing samples of uncertain variables according to their probability distributions.

Default Behavior

Monte Carlo sampling is not used by default. To change this behavior, the random keyword must be specified in conjunction with the sample_type keyword.

Usage Tips

Monte Carlo sampling is more computationally expensive than Latin Hypercube Sampling as it requires a larger number of samples to accurately estimate statistics.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 200
```

**num_trials**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **fsu_cvt**
- **num_trials**

The number of secondary sample points generated to adjust the location of the primary sample points

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

In general, the variable with the most influence on the quality of the final sample set is `num_trials`, which determines how well the Voronoi subregions are sampled.

Generally, `num_trials` should be "large", certainly much bigger than the number of sample points being requested; a reasonable value might be 10,000, but values of 100,000 or 1 million are not unusual.

**samples**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **fsu_cvt**
- **samples**

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The samples keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

Usage Tips

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( \text{dim} + 1 \) samples should be used, where \( \text{"dim"} \) is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \( (\text{dim}+1)(\text{dim}+2)/2 \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10 \times \text{dim} \) samples. For \texttt{variance\_based\_decomp}, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for \texttt{variance\_based\_decomp}, the number of simulations performed will be \( N \times (\text{dim} + 2) \).

Examples

```cpp
method
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 20

seed
  
  Keywords Area

  method

  fsu_cvt

  seed

Seed of the random number generator

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output

If \texttt{seed} is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips

If a stochastic study was run without \texttt{seed} specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_cvt
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
```
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6

cumulative

model
id_model = 'SRR'
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.64 psuade_moat

- Keywords Area
- method
- psuade_moat

Morris One-at-a-Time

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- package_psuade
- design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
### Description

The Morris One-At-A-Time (MOAT) method, originally proposed by Morris [63] "M.D. Morris, 1991"), is a screening method, designed to explore a computational model to distinguish between input variables that have negligible, linear and additive, or nonlinear or interaction effects on the output. The computer experiments performed consist of individually randomized designs which vary one input factor at a time to create a sample of its elementary effects.

The number of samples \( \text{samples} \) must be a positive integer multiple of (number of continuous design variable + 1) and will be automatically adjusted if misspecified.

The number of partitions \( \text{partitions} \) applies to each variable being studied and must be odd (the number of MOAT levels per variable is partitions + 1). This will also be adjusted at runtime as necessary.

For information on practical use of this method, see [74] "Saltelli, et al., 2004".

### Theory

With MOAT, each dimension of a \( k \)–dimensional input space is uniformly partitioned into \( p \) levels, creating a grid of \( p^k \) points \( \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k \) at which evaluations of the model \( y(\mathbf{x}) \) might take place. An elementary effect corresponding to input \( i \) is computed by a forward difference

\[
d_i(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{y(\mathbf{x} + \Delta e_i) - y(\mathbf{x})}{\Delta},
\]

where \( e_i \) is the \( i \)th coordinate vector, and the step \( \Delta \) is typically taken to be large (this is not intended to be a local derivative approximation). In the present implementation of MOAT, for an input variable scaled to \([0, 1]\), \( \Delta = \frac{p}{2(p-1)} \), so the step used to find elementary effects is slightly larger than half the input range.

The distribution of elementary effects \( d_i \) over the input space characterizes the effect of input \( i \) on the output of interest. After generating \( r \) samples from this distribution, their mean,

\[
\mu_i = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{j=1}^{r} d_i^{(j)}
\]
modified mean

\[ \mu_i^* = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{j=1}^{r} |d^{(j)}_i|, \]

(using absolute value) and standard deviation

\[ \sigma_i = \sqrt{\frac{1}{r} \sum_{j=1}^{r} (d^{(j)}_i - \mu_i)^2} \]

are computed for each input \( i \). The mean and modified mean give an indication of the overall effect of an input on the output. Standard deviation indicates nonlinear effects or interactions, since it is an indicator of elementary effects varying throughout the input space.

partitions

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **psuade_moat**
- **partitions**

Number of partitions of each variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Described on the parent page, psuade_moat

samples

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **psuade_moat**
- **samples**

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

Usage Tips

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( \text{dim} + 1 \) samples should be used, where "\( \text{dim} \)" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \( \frac{(\text{dim}+1)(\text{dim}+2)}{2} \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10 \times \text{dim} \) samples. For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be \( N \times (\text{dim}+2) \).

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20

seed
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - psuade_moat
  - seed

Seed of the random number generator
```

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The random `seed` control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output

If `seed` is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips

If a stochastic study was run without `seed` specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347

model_pointer
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • psuade_moat
  • model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
  • block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765 rng rnum2
6.2.65  local_evidence

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence

Evidence theory with evidence measures computed with local optimization methods

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- epistemic_uncertainty_quantification_methods
- evidence_theory
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: nond_local_evidence
Argument(s): none
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>sqp</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses a sequential quadratic programming method for underlying optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>nip</td>
<td>Uses a nonlinear interior point method for underlying optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>response_levels</td>
<td>Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>distribution</td>
<td>Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

See the topic page evidence_theory for important background information and usage notes.
Two local optimization methods are available: sqp (sequential quadratic programming) or nip (nonlinear interior point method).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:
- global_evidence
- global_interval_est
- local_interval_est

sqp
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- sqp
Uses a sequential quadratic programming method for underlying optimization

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

Many uncertainty quantification methods solve a constrained optimization problem under the hood. The sqp keyword directs Dakota to use a sequential quadratic programming method to solve that problem. A sequential quadratic programming solves a sequence of linearly constrained quadratic optimization problems to arrive at the solution to the optimization problem.

nip
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- nip
Uses a nonlinear interior point method for underlying optimization
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Many uncertainty quantification methods solve a constrained optimization problem under the hood. The `nip` keyword directs Dakota to use a nonlinear interior point to solve that problem. A nonlinear interior point method traverses the interior of the feasible region to arrive at the solution to the optimization problem.

`response_levels`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_evidence**
- **response_levels**

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td><code>num_response_levels</code></td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td><code>compute</code></td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `response_levels` specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
6.2. METHOD

2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

Usage Tips
The num_response_levels is used to specify which arguments of the response_level correspond to which response.

Examples
For example, specifying a response_level of 52.3 followed with compute probabilities will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the num_response_levels key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

Theory
Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

num_response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- response_levels
- num_response_levels

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

Default Behavior

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.

Expected Outputs

The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    samples = 100
    seed = 34785
    num_response_levels = 1 1 1
    response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5
```

compute

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- response_levels
- compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required/-</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gen_reliabilities</th>
<th>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>system</td>
<td>Compute system reliability (series or parallel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional

Description

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then on of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

Expected Output

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

Usage Tips

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                       6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                       3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute reliabilities

probabilities
```

• Keywords Area

• method

• local_evidence

• response_levels

• compute

• probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The **probabilities** keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If **response_levels** is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the **probabilities** keyword should be specified in conjunction with the **compute** keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute probabilities

gen_reliabilities
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_evidence**
- **response_levels**
- **compute**
- **gen_reliabilities**

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
Description

The `gen_reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If `response_levels` is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `gen_reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                       6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                       3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
    compute gen_reliabilities

system
```

• Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_evidence
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| parallel        | Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system |

### Description

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified response levels are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.

#### series
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

### Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

### Description

See parent keyword system for description.

#### parallel
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- response_levels
- compute
- system
6.2. METHOD

- parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.

**probability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).
num_probability_levels
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_evidence
  • probability_levels
  • num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
See parent page

gen_reliability_levels
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_evidence
  • gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function. In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

### num_gen_reliability_levels

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_evidence**
- **gen_reliability_levels**
- **num_gen_reliability_levels**

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

### Description

See parent page

### distribution

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_evidence**
- **distribution**

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
### Description

The `distribution` keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

**Default Behavior**

If the `distribution` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either `cumulative` or `complementary`. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

### Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative
```

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

**Description**
Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**
By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

**Examples**
```
method  
sampling  
    sample_type lhs  
    samples = 10  
    distribution cumulative
```

**complementary**
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_evidence
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

**Specification**
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**
Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**
By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the `complementary` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**
Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.
Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution complementary

model_pointer
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_evidence
  • model_pointer

  Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

  See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
6.2. METHOD

response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
     0.1 0.2 0.6
     0.1 0.2 0.6

sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = ‘SURR’
surrogate global,
dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = ‘DACE’
  model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = ‘DACE_M’
single
  interface_pointer = ‘I1’

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.66 local_interval_est

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_interval_est

  Interval analysis using local optimization

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

  • uncertainty_quantification
  • epistemic_uncertainty_quantification_methods
  • interval_estimation
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

**Alias:** nond_local_interval_est

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>sqp</td>
<td>sqp</td>
<td>Uses a sequential quadratic programming method for underlying optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>nip</td>
<td>nip</td>
<td>Uses a nonlinear interior point method for underlying optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Interval analysis using local methods (local_interval_est). If the problem is amenable to local optimization methods (e.g. can provide derivatives or use finite difference method to calculate derivatives), then one can use one of two local methods to calculate these bounds.

- sqp
- nip

**Theory**

In interval analysis, one assumes that nothing is known about an epistemic uncertain variable except that its value lies somewhere within an interval. In this situation, it is NOT assumed that the value has a uniform probability of occurring within the interval. Instead, the interpretation is that any value within the interval is a possible value or a potential realization of that variable. In interval analysis, the uncertainty quantification problem is one of determining the resulting bounds on the output (defining the output interval) given interval bounds on the inputs. Again, any output response that falls within the output interval is a possible output with no frequency information assigned to it.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- global_evidence
- global_interval_est
- local_evidence
6.2. METHOD

sqp
  
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_interval_est
  • sqp

Uses a sequential quadratic programming method for underlying optimization

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

Many uncertainty quantification methods solve a constrained optimization problem under the hood. The sqp keyword directs Dakota to use a sequential quadratic programming method to solve that problem. A sequential quadratic programming solves a sequence of linearly constrained quadratic optimization problems to arrive at the solution to the optimization problem.

nip
  
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • local_interval_est
  • nip

Uses a nonlinear interior point method for underlying optimization

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

Many uncertainty quantification methods solve a constrained optimization problem under the hood. The nip keyword directs Dakota to use a nonlinear interior point to solve that problem. A nonlinear interior point method traverses the interior of the feasible region to arrive at the solution to the optimization problem.
model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_interval_est
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.  
See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

**Examples**

```environment
tabular_graphics_data
method_pointer = 'UQ'
```

```method
id_method = 'UQ'
model_pointer = 'SURR'
sampling,
samples = 10
seed = 98765 rng rnum2
response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
0.1 0.2 0.6
sample_type lhs
distribution cumulative
```

```model
id_model = 'SURR'
surrogate global,
```
6.2. METHOD

```plaintext
dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians
```

6.2.67 local_reliability

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability

Local reliability method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- uncertainty_quantification
- reliability_methods

Specification

Alias: nond_local_reliability

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Local reliability methods compute approximate response function distribution statistics based on specified uncertain variable probability distributions. Each of the local reliability methods can compute forward and inverse mappings involving response, probability, reliability, and generalized reliability levels.

The forward reliability analysis algorithm of computing reliabilities/_probabilities for specified response levels is called the Reliability Index Approach (RIA), and the inverse reliability analysis algorithm of computing response levels for specified probability levels is called the Performance Measure Approach (PMA).

The different RIA/PMA algorithm options are specified using the `mpp_search` specification which selects among different limit state approximations that can be used to reduce computational expense during the MPP searches.

### Theory

The Mean Value method (MV, also known as MVFOSM in [42] "Haldar and Mahadevan, 2000") is the simplest, least-expensive method in that it estimates the response means, response standard deviations, and all CDF/CCDF
forward/inverse mappings from a single evaluation of response functions and gradients at the uncertain variable means. This approximation can have acceptable accuracy when the response functions are nearly linear and their distributions are approximately Gaussian, but can have poor accuracy in other situations.

All other reliability methods perform an internal nonlinear optimization to compute a most probable point (MPP) of failure. A sign convention and the distance of the MPP from the origin in the transformed standard normal space ("u-space") define the reliability index, as explained in the section on Reliability Methods in the Uncertainty Quantification chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]. The reliability can then be converted to a probability using either first- or second-order integration, may then be refined using importance sampling, and finally may be converted to a generalized reliability index.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- adaptive_sampling
- gpais
- global_reliability
- sampling
- importance_sampling
- polynomial_chaos
- stoch_collocation

**mpp_search**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search

Specify which MPP search option to use

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- uncertainty_quantification
- reliability_methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
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<tr>
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<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>x_taylor_mean</td>
<td>Form Taylor series approximation in &quot;x-space&quot; at variable means</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>u_taylor_mean</td>
<td>Form Taylor series approximation in &quot;u-space&quot; at variable means</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x_taylor_mpp</td>
<td>X-space Taylor series approximation with iterative updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>u_taylor_mpp</td>
<td>U-space Taylor series approximation with iterative updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x_two_point</td>
<td>Predict MPP using Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation in &quot;x-space&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>u_two_point</td>
<td>Predict MPP using Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation in &quot;u-space&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>no_approx</td>
<td>Perform MPP search on original response functions (use no approximation)</td>
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## Optional (Choose One)

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>nip</td>
<td>Uses a nonlinear interior point method for underlying optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>integration</td>
<td>Integration approach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The `x_taylor_mean` MPP search option performs a single Taylor series approximation in the space of the original uncertain variables ("x-space") centered at the uncertain variable means, searches for the MPP for each response/probability level using this approximation, and performs a validation response evaluation at each predicted MPP. This option is commonly known as the Advanced Mean Value (AMV) method. The `u_taylor_mean` option is identical to the `x_taylor_mean` option, except that the approximation is performed in u-space. The `x_taylor_mpp` approach starts with an x-space Taylor series at the uncertain variable means, but iteratively updates the Taylor series approximation at each MPP prediction until the MPP converges. This option is commonly known as the AMV+ method. The `u_taylor_mpp` option is identical to the `x_taylor_mpp` option, except that all approximations are performed in u-space. The order of the Taylor-series approximation is determined by the corresponding `responses` specification and may be first or second-order. If second-order (methods named AMV² and AMV²+ in [21] "Eldred and Bichon, 2006"), the series may employ analytic, finite difference, or quasi Hessians (BFGS or SR1). The `x_two_point` MPP search option uses an x-space Taylor series approximation at the uncertain variable means for the initial MPP prediction, then utilizes the Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation (TANA) outlined in [92] "Xu and Grandhi, 1998" for all subsequent MPP predictions. The `u_two_point` approach is identical to `x_two_point`, but all the approximations are performed in u-space. The `x_taylor_mpp` and `u_taylor_mpp`, `x_two_point` and `u_two_point` approaches utilize the `max_iterations` and `convergence_tolerance` method independent controls to control the convergence of the MPP iterations (the maximum number of MPP iterations per level is limited by `max_iterations`, and the MPP iterations are considered converged when `\| u^{(k+1)} - u^{(k)} \|_2 < convergence_tolerance`). And, finally, the `no_approx` option performs the MPP search on the original response functions without the use of any approximations. The optimization algorithm used to perform these MPP searches can be selected to be either sequential quadratic programming (uses the `npsol_sqp` optimizer) or nonlinear interior point (uses the `optpp_q_newton` optimizer) algorithms using the `sqp` or `nip` keywords.

In addition to the MPP search specifications, one may select among different integration approaches for computing probabilities at the MPP by using the `integration` keyword followed by either `first_order` or `second_order`. Second-order integration employs the formulation of [[50] "Hohenbichler and Rackwitz, 1988"] (the approach of [[12] "Breitung, 1984"] and the correction of [[51] "Hong 1999"] are also implemented, but are not active). Combining the `no_approx` option of the MPP search with first- and second-order integrations results in the traditional first- and second-order reliability methods (FORM and SORM). These integration approximations may be subsequently refined using importance sampling. The refinement specification allows the selection of basic importance sampling (`import`), adaptive importance sampling (`adapt_import`), or multimodal adaptive importance sampling (`mm_adapt_import`), along with the specification of number of samples.
(samples) and random seed (seed). Additional details on these methods are available in [[23] "Eldred et al., 2004"] and [[21] "Eldred and Bichon, 2006"] and in the Uncertainty Quantification Capabilities chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"].

**x_taylor_mean**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- x_taylor_mean

Form Taylor series approximation in ”x-space” at variable means

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

This mpp_search option performs a single Taylor series approximation in the space of the original uncertain variables ("x-space") centered at the uncertain variable means, searches for the MPP for each response/probability level using this approximation, and performs a validation response evaluation at each predicted MPP. This option is commonly known as the Advanced Mean Value (AMV) method.

**u_taylor_mean**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- u_taylor_mean

Form Taylor series approximation in ”u-space” at variable means

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

This mpp_search option performs a single Taylor series approximation in the transformed space of the uncertain variables (“u-space”) centered at the uncertain variable means. This option is commonly known as the Advanced Mean Value (AMV) method, but is performed in u-space instead of x-space.

x_taylor_mpp

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- x_taylor_mpp

X-space Taylor series approximation with iterative updates

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

This mpp_search option starts with an x-space Taylor series at the uncertain variable means, but iteratively updates the Taylor series approximation at each MPP prediction until the MPP converges. This option is commonly known as the AMV+ method.

u_taylor_mpp

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- u_taylor_mpp

U-space Taylor series approximation with iterative updates
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
This mpp_search option starts with a u-space Taylor series at the uncertain variable means, and iteratively updates the Taylor series approximation at each MPP prediction until the MPP converges. This option is commonly known as the AMV+ method and is identify to x_taylor_mpp except that it is performed in u-space.

x_two_point

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- x_two_point

Predict MPP using Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation in "x-space"

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
This mpp_search option uses an x-space Taylor series approximation at the uncertain variable means for the initial MPP prediction, then utilizes the Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation (TANA) outlined in [ Xu98 "Xu and Grandhi, 1998"] for all subsequent MPP predictions.
6.2. METHOD

u_two_point
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- u_two_point

Predict MPP using Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation in "u-space"

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
This mpp_search option is identical to x_two_point, but it performs the Two-point Adaptive Nonlinear Approximation (TANA) in u-space instead of x-space.

no_approx
- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- no_approx

Perform MPP search on original response functions (use no approximation)

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
This mpp_search option performs the MPP search on the original response functions without the use of any approximations. Note that the use of the no_approx MPP search with first-order probability integration results in the traditional reliability method called FORM (First-Order Reliability Method). Similarly, the use of no_approx with second-order probability integration results in SORM (Second-Order Reliability Method).

sqp

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- sqp

Uses a sequential quadratic programming method for underlying optimization

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Many uncertainty quantification methods solve a constrained optimization problem under the hood. The sqp keyword directs Dakota to use a sequential quadratic programming method to solve that problem. A sequential quadratic programming solves a sequence of linearly constrained quadratic optimization problems to arrive at the solution to the optimization problem.

nip

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- nip

Uses a nonlinear interior point method for underlying optimization

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
Description

Many uncertainty quantification methods solve a constrained optimization problem under the hood. The `nip` keyword directs Dakota to use a nonlinear interior point to solve that problem. A nonlinear interior point method traverses the interior of the feasible region to arrive at the solution to the optimization problem.

Integration approach

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_reliability**
- **mpp_search**
- **integration**

Integration approach

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **reliability_methods**

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<td></td>
<td>second_order</td>
<td>Second-order integration scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>probability_refinement</td>
<td>Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

This keyword controls how the probabilities at the MPP are computed: integration is followed by either `first_order` or `second_order`, indicating the order of the probability integration.
First-order integration scheme

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
First-order integration in local reliability methods uses the minimum Euclidean distance from the origin to the most probable point (MPP) in transformed space to compute the probability of failure. This distance, commonly called the reliability index Beta, is used to calculate the probability of failure by calculating the standard normal cumulative distribution function at -Beta.

Second-order integration scheme

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- reliability_methods
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Second-order integration in local reliability methods modifies the first-order integration approach to apply a curvature correction. This correction is based on the formulation of [Hoh88 “Hohenbichler and Rackwitz, 1988”].

probability_refinement

- Keywords Area
  - method
  - local_reliability
  - mpp_search
  - integration
  - probability_refinement

Allow refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification

Alias: sample_refinement

Argument(s): none

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<td>Importance sampling option</td>
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<td>Sampling option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>refinement_-samples</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

The `probability_refinement` allows refinement of probability and generalized reliability results using importance sampling. If one specifies `probability_refinement`, there are some additional options. One can specify which type of importance sampling to use (`import`, `adapt_import`, or `mm_adapt_import`). Additionally, one can specify the number of refinement samples to use with `refinement_samples` and the seed to use with `seed`.

The `probability_refinement` density reweighting accounts originally was developed based on Gaussian distributions. It now accounts for additional non-Gaussian cases.

- **import**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - local_reliability
  - mpp_search
  - integration
  - probability_refinement
  - import

  Sampling option

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

`import` centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level).

- **adapt_import**
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - local_reliability
  - mpp_search
  - integration
6.2. METHOD

- probability_refinement
- adapt_import

Importance sampling option

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

*adapt_import* centers a sampling density at one of the initial LHS samples identified in the failure region. It then generates the importance samples, weights them by their probability of occurrence given the original density, and calculates the required probability (CDF or CCDF level). This continues iteratively until the failure probability estimate converges.

**mm_adapt_import**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_reliability**
- **mpp_search**
- **integration**
- **probability_refinement**
- **mm_adapt_import**

Sampling option

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

*mm_adapt_import* starts with all of the samples located in the failure region to build a multimodal sampling density. First, it uses a small number of samples around each of the initial samples in the failure region. Note that these samples are allocated to the different points based on their relative probabilities of occurrence: more probable points get more samples. This early part of the approach is done to search for “representative” points. Once these are located, the multimodal sampling density is set and then *mm_adapt_import* proceeds similarly to *adapt_import* (sample until convergence).
refinement_samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- integration
- probability_refinement
- refinement_samples

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

Specify the number of samples used to improve a probability estimate. If using uni-modal sampling all samples are assigned to the sampling center. If using multi-modal sampling the samples are split between multiple samples according to some internally computed weights.

**seed**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- mpp_search
- integration
- probability_refinement
- seed

Seed of the random number generator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
6.2. METHOD

Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

Default Behavior

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

Expected Output

If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

Usage Tips

If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

Examples

```dakota
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

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<td>Optional</td>
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<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>compute</td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The response_levels specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

Default Behavior

If response_levels are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

Expected Outputs

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

Usage Tips

The num_response_levels is used to specify which arguments of the response_level correspond to which response.

Examples

For example, specifying a response_level of 52.3 followed with compute probabilities will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the num_response_levels key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

num_response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- response_levels
- num_response_levels

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The `num_response_levels` keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If `num_response_levels` is not specified, the response levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.

**Expected Outputs**

The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

```
method sampling
  samples = 100
  seed = 34785
  num_response_levels = 1 1 1
  response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5
```

```
compute
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- response_levels
- compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
### Keywords Area

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<td>probabilities</td>
<td>Computes probabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
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<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>system</td>
<td>Compute system reliability (series or parallel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description

The `compute` keyword is used to select which forward statistical mapping is calculated at each response level.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is not specified, no statistics are computed. If `response_levels` is specified but `compute` is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both `response_levels` and `compute` are specified, then one of the following must be specified: `probabilities`, `reliabilities`, or `gen_reliabilities`.

**Expected Output**

The type of statistics specified by `compute` will be reported for each response level.

**Usage Tips**

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach.

CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

#### Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
    complementary distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11 6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04 3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities
  probabilities
```
Keywords Area

• method
• local_reliability
• response_levels
• compute
• probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The probabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the probabilities keyword should be specified in conjunction with the compute keyword.

Expected Outputs

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

Examples

method sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary_distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute probabilities

reliabilities

• Keywords Area
• method
• local_reliability
• response_levels
• compute
• **reliabilities**

  Computes reliabilities associated with response levels

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is specified, the reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sampling_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary_distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                 6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                 3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities
```

**gen_reliabilities**

• **Keywords Area**

• **method**

• **local_reliability**

• **response_levels**

• **compute**

• **gen_reliabilities**

Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description
The `gen_reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior
If `response_levels` is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `gen_reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

Expected Outputs
The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.

Examples
```
method
sampling
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
compute gen_reliabilities
```

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional Required(&lt;Choose One&gt;)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>series</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
**Description**

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response.

For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>keyword</th>
<th>parallel</th>
<th>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**series**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- response_levels
- compute
- system
- series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system
6.2. METHOD

- parallel
  Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent keyword `system` for description.

**reliability_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - local_reliability
  - reliability_levels

Specify reliability levels at which the response values will be estimated

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF reliabilties by projecting out the prescribed number of sample standard deviations from the sample mean.

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).
num_reliability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- reliability_levels
- num_reliability_levels

Specify which reliability_levels correspond to which response

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cumulative</td>
<td>Computes statistics according to cumulative functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

| complementary | Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions |

### Description

The `distribution` keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

#### Default Behavior

- If the `distribution` keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either `cumulative` or `complementary`. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

#### Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

### Examples

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```

`cumulative`

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_reliability**
- **distribution**
- **cumulative**

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

#### Default Behavior

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the `cumulative` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.
**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
complementary

• Keywords Area
• method
• local_reliability
• distribution
• complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the `complementary` keyword must appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
  distribution complementary
```
6.2. METHOD

probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

num_probability_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- probability_levels
- num_probability_levels

Specify which probability_levels correspond to which response
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

**gen_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- local_reliability
- gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

**Theory**

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).
6.2. METHOD

**num_gen_reliability_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_reliability**
- **gen_reliability_levels**
- **num_gen_reliability_levels**

Specify which `gen_reliability_levels` correspond to which response.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

See parent page

**model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **local_reliability**
- **model_pointer**

Identifier for model block to be used by a method.

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** STRING
Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
evironment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765 rng rnum2
  response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
                  0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system async evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```

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6.2. METHOD

response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.68 global_reliability

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability

Global reliability methods

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
  - uncertainty_quantification
  - reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: nond_global_reliability
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required(Choose One)</td>
<td>x_gaussian_process</td>
<td>Create GP surrogate in x-space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional(Choose One)</td>
<td>u_gaussian_process</td>
<td>Create GP surrogate in u-space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>surfpack</td>
<td>Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>import_points_file</td>
<td>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Optional

export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

Optional

use_derivatives

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models

Optional

seed

Seed of the random number generator

Optional

rng

Selection of a random number generator

Optional

response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Optional

distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

Optional

probability_levels

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Optional

gen_reliability_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Description

These methods do not support forward/inverse mappings involving reliability_levels, since they never form a reliability index based on distance in u-space. Rather they use a Gaussian process model to form an approximation to the limit state (based either in x-space via the x_gaussian_process specification or in u-space via the u_gaussian_process specification), followed by probability estimation based on multimodal adaptive importance sampling (see [10] "Bichon et al., 2007") and [11] "Bichon et al., 2008"). These probability estimates may then be transformed into generalized reliability levels if desired. At this time, inverse reliability
6.2. METHOD

Analysis (mapping probability or generalized reliability levels into response levels) is not implemented.

The Gaussian process model approximation to the limit state is formed over the aleatory uncertain variables by default, but may be extended to also capture the effect of design, epistemic uncertain, and state variables. If this is desired, one must use the appropriate controls to specify the active variables in the variables specification block.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- adaptive_sampling
- gpais
- local_reliability
- sampling
- importance_sampling
- polynomial_chaos
- stoch_collocation

x_gaussian_process

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- x_gaussian_process

Create GP surrogate in x-space

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification

Alias: x_kriging

Argument(s): none

u_gaussian_process

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- u_gaussian_process

Create GP surrogate in u-space
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- reliability_methods

Specification
Alias: u_kriging
Argument(s): none

surfpack
- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- surfpack

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

Description
This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack.

Several user options are available:

1. Optimization methods:
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See optimization_method.

   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the max_trials keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. Trend Function:
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See trend.

3. Correlation Lengths:
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See correlation_lengths.
4. Ill-conditioning

One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.

Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.

The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using

5. Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).

The use_derivatives keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).

See notes in the Theory section.

Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Kriging’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

dakota

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- dakota

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the gaussian_process dakota model can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a point_selection option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpolate the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the point_selection option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

import_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Description
The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**
Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**
Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**
```
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

**annotated**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**
**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the \texttt{annotated} keyword must be used in conjunction with the \texttt{import.points.file} keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though \texttt{freeform} remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```

**topics**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The \texttt{num_rows} x \texttt{num_cols} total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the \texttt{freeform} keyword must be used in conjunction with the \texttt{import.points.file} keyword.

**Usage Tips**
6.2. METHOD

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```dakota
method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
```

**active_only**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **import_points_file**
- **active_only**

Import only active variables from tabular data file

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.
export_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

**annotated**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- export_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. METHOD

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
annotated

freeform

Keywords Area

- method

- global_reliability

- export_points_file

- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```method
list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
use_derivatives
```

Speciﬁcation

Alias: none
 Argument(s): none

Description

The use_derivatives flag speciﬁes that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, it’s use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.
6.2. **METHOD**

**seed**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **seed**

Seed of the random number generator

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

### Description

The random seed control provides a mechanism for making a stochastic method repeatable. That is, the use of the same random seed in identical studies will generate identical results.

#### Default Behavior

If not specified, the seed is randomly generated.

#### Expected Output

If seed is specified, a stochastic study will generate identical results when repeated using the same seed value. Otherwise, results are not guaranteed to be the same.

#### Usage Tips

If a stochastic study was run without seed specified, and the user later wishes to repeat the study using the same seed, the value of the seed used in the original study can be found in the output Dakota prints to the screen. That value can then be added to the Dakota input file.

### Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 15347
```

**rng**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **rng**

Selection of a random number generator

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
### Dakota Keyword: `rng` - Random Number Generator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>mt19937</td>
<td>Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>rnum2</td>
<td>Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description

The `rng` keyword is used to indicate a choice of random number generator.

**Default Behavior**

If specified, the `rng` keyword must be accompanied by either `rnum2` (pseudo-random numbers) or `mt19937` (random numbers generated by the Mersenne twister). Otherwise, `mt19937`, the Mersenne twister is used by default.

**Usage Tips**

The default is recommended, as the Mersenne twister is a higher quality random number generator.

#### Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
  rng rnum2

mt19937
```

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **rng**
- **mt19937**

Generates random numbers using the Mersenne twister

#### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
6.2. **METHOD**

**Description**

The `mt19937` keyword directs Dakota to use the Mersenne twister to generate random numbers. Additional information can be found on Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_twister).

**Default Behavior**

`mt19937` is the default random number generator. To specify it explicitly in the Dakota input file, however, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng mt19937
```

**rnum2**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **rng**
- **rnum2**

Generates pseudo-random numbers using the Pecos package.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `rnum2` keyword directs Dakota to use pseudo-random numbers generated by the Pecos package.

**Default Behavior**

`rnum2` is not used by default. To change this behavior, it must be specified in conjunction with the `rng` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

Use of the Mersenne twister random number generator (`mt19937`) is recommended over `rnum2`.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765
    rng rnum2
```
response_levels

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- response_levels

Values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_response_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>compute</td>
<td></td>
<td>Selection of statistics to compute at each response level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `response_levels` specification provides the target response values for which to compute probabilities, reliabilities, or generalized reliabilities (forward mapping).

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` are not specified, no statistics will be computed. If they are, probabilities will be computed by default.

**Expected Outputs**

The particular statistics reported for each response level depend on the method, and they include:

1. Reliabilities
2. CDF probabilities
3. CCDF probabilities

**Usage Tips**

The `num_response_levels` is used to specify which arguments of the `response_level` correspond to which response.
6.2. METHOD

Examples
For example, specifying a response_level of 52.3 followed with compute probabilities will result in the calculation of the probability that the response value is less than or equal to 52.3, given the uncertain distributions on the inputs.

For an example with multiple responses, the following specification

```plaintext
response_levels = 1. 2. .1 .2 .3 .4 10. 20. 30.
num_response_levels = 2 4 3
```

would assign the first two response levels (1., 2.) to response function 1, the next four response levels (.1, .2, .3, .4) to response function 2, and the final three response levels (10., 20., 30.) to response function 3. If the num_response_levels key were omitted from this example, then the response levels would be evenly distributed among the response functions (three levels each in this case).

Theory
Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

A forward mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility probability level for a specified response level.

**num_response_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **response_levels**
- **num_response_levels**

Number of values at which to estimate desired statistics for each response

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The num_response_levels keyword allows the user to specify the number of response values, for each response, at which estimated statistics are of interest. Statistics that can be computed are probabilities and reliabilities, both according to either a cumulative distribution function or a complementary cumulative distribution function.

**Default Behavior**

If num_response_levels is not specified, the response_levels will be evenly distributed among the responses.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Expected Outputs
The specific output will be determined by the type of statistics that are specified. In a general sense, the output will be a list of response level-statistic pairs that show the estimated value of the desired statistic for each response level specified.

Examples

method
sampling
samples = 100
seed = 34785
num_response_levels = 1 1 1
response_levels = 0.5 0.5 0.5

compute

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- response_levels
- compute

Selection of statistics to compute at each response level

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword probabilities</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>gen_reliabilities</td>
<td>Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>system</td>
<td>Compute system reliability (series or parallel)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. METHOD

Description

The compute keyword is used to select which forward stastical mapping is calculated at each response level.

Default Behavior

If response_levels is not specified, no statistics are computed. If response_levels is specified but compute is not, probabilities will be computed by default. If both response_levels and compute are specified, then one of the following must be specified: probabilities, reliabilities, or gen_reliabilities.

Expected Output

The type of statistics specified by compute will be reported for each response level.

Usage Tips

CDF/CCDF probabilities are calculated for specified response levels using a simple binning approach. CDF/CCDF reliabilities are calculated for specified response levels by computing the number of sample standard deviations separating the sample mean from the response level.

Examples

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
                  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
                  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute reliabilities

probabilities

  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_reliability
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • probabilities

Computes probabilities associated with response levels
```

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The probabilities keyword directs Dakota to compute the probability that the model response will be below (cumulative) or above (complementary cumulative) a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

Default Behavior
If `response_levels` is specified, the probabilities are computed by default. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, though, the `probabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-probability pairs that give the probability that the model response will be below or above the corresponding response level, depending on the distribution defined.

**Examples**

```
method
  sampling
    sample_type random
    samples = 100 seed = 1
  complementary_distribution
    response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
    6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
    3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
  compute probabilities

  gen_reliabilities
    - Keywords Area
    - method
    - global_reliability
    - response_levels
    - compute
    - gen_reliabilities

  Computes generalized reliabilities associated with response levels
```

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The `gen_reliabilities` keyword directs Dakota to compute generalized reliabilities according to the specified distribution for a specified response value. This is done for every response level designated for each response.

**Default Behavior**

If `response_levels` is specified, the generalized reliabilities are not computed by default. To change this behavior, the `gen_reliabilities` keyword should be specified in conjunction with the `compute` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

The Dakota output is a set of response level-generalized reliability pairs according to the distribution defined.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

```method
dosing
  sample_type random
  samples = 100 seed = 1
complementary distribution
  response_levels = 3.6e+11 4.0e+11 4.4e+11
  6.0e+04 6.5e+04 7.0e+04
  3.5e+05 4.0e+05 4.5e+05
compute gen_reliabilities
```

system

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- response_levels
- compute
- system

Compute system reliability (series or parallel)

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional/Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>series</td>
<td></td>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

With the system probability/reliability option, statistics for specified `response_levels` are calculated and reported assuming the response functions combine either in series or parallel to produce a total system response. For a series system, the system fails when any one component (response) fails. The probability of failure is the complement of the product of the individual response success probabilities.

For a parallel system, the system fails only when all components (responses) fail. The probability of failure is the product of the individual response failure probabilities.
series
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_reliability
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system
  • series

Aggregate response statistics assuming a series system

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
See parent keyword system for description.

parallel
  • Keywords Area
  • method
  • global_reliability
  • response_levels
  • compute
  • system
  • parallel

Aggregate response statistics assuming a parallel system

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
See parent keyword system for description.
6.2. METHOD

distribution

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- distribution

Selection of cumulative or complementary cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional | Group | | |
| One) | | cumulative | Description |

- cumulative
  - Computes statistics according to cumulative functions
- complementary
  - Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions

Description

The distribution keyword allows the user to select between a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function and a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. This choice affects how probabilities and reliability indices are reported.

Default Behavior

If the distribution keyword is present, it must be accompanied by either cumulative or complementary. Otherwise, a cumulative distribution will be used by default.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to the choice of distribution. The choice of distribution also defines the sign of the reliability or generalized reliability indices.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution cumulative
```
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

cumulative

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- distribution
- cumulative

Computes statistics according to cumulative functions

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

Default Behavior

By default, a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will be used. To explicitly specify it in the Dakota input file, however, the cumulative keyword must appear in conjunction with the distribution keyword.

Expected Outputs

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls below given response thresholds.

Examples

method
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 10
    distribution cumulative

complementary

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- distribution
- complementary

Computes statistics according to complementary cumulative functions
6.2. **METHOD**

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

Statistics on model responses will be computed according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function.

**Default Behavior**

By default, a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function will not be used. To change that behavior, the `complementary` keyword must be appear in conjunction with the `distribution` keyword.

**Expected Outputs**

Output will be a set of model response-probability pairs determined according to a complementary cumulative distribution/belief/plausibility function. The probabilities reported are the probabilities that the model response falls above given response thresholds.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 10
  distribution complementary
```

**probability_levels**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **global_reliability**
- **probability_levels**

Specify probability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_probability_levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Response levels are calculated for specified CDF/CCDF probabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).
Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

\textbf{num\_probability\_levels}

- Keywords Area
- method
- global\_reliability
- probability\_levels
- num\_probability\_levels

Specify which \texttt{probability\_levels} correspond to which response

\textbf{Specification}

\textbf{Alias:} none

\textbf{Argument(s):} INTEGERLIST

\textbf{Description}

See parent page

\textbf{gen\_reliability\_levels}

- Keywords Area
- method
- global\_reliability
- gen\_reliability\_levels

Specify generalized reliability levels at which to estimate the corresponding response value

\textbf{Specification}

\textbf{Alias:} none

\textbf{Argument(s):} REALLIST
### 6.2. METHOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_gen_reliability_levels</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description

Response levels are calculated for specified generalized reliabilities by indexing into a sorted samples array (the response levels computed are not interpolated and will correspond to one of the sampled values).

#### Theory

Sets of response-probability pairs computed with the forward/inverse mappings define either a cumulative distribution function (CDF) or a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) for each response function.

In the case of evidence-based epistemic methods, this is generalized to define either cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CBF and CPF) or complementary cumulative belief and plausibility functions (CCBF and CCPF) for each response function.

An inverse mapping involves computing the belief and plausibility response level for either a specified probability level or a specified generalized reliability level (two results for each level mapping in the evidence-based epistemic case, instead of the one result for each level mapping in the aleatory case).

**num_gen_reliability_levels**

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- gen_reliability_levels
- num_gen_reliability_levels

Specify which gen_reliability_levels correspond to which response

#### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

#### Description

See parent page
model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- global_reliability
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
```
6.2. METHOD

dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
polynomial quadratic

method
id_method = 'DACE'
model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.69 fsu_quasi_mc

• Keywords Area
• method
• fsu_quasi_mc

Design of Computer Experiments - Quasi-Monte Carlo sampling

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• package_fsubace
• design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>halton</th>
<th>Generate samples from a Halton sequence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>hammersley</td>
<td>Use Hammersley sequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>latinize</td>
<td>Adjust samples to improve the discrepancy of the marginal distributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>quality_metrics</td>
<td>Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>variance_based_decomp</td>
<td>Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>samples</td>
<td>Number of samples for sampling-based methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>fixed_sequence</td>
<td>Reuse the same sequence and samples for multiple sampling sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>sequence_start</td>
<td>Choose where to start sampling the sequence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>sequence_leap</td>
<td>Specify how often the sequence is sampled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>prime_base</td>
<td>The prime numbers used to generate the sequence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2. Method

Description

Quasi-Monte Carlo methods produce low discrepancy sequences, especially if one is interested in the uniformity of projections of the point sets onto lower dimensional faces of the hypercube (usually 1-D: how well do the marginal distributions approximate a uniform?)

This method generates sets of uniform random variables on the interval [0,1]. If the user specifies lower and upper bounds for a variable, the [0,1] samples are mapped to the [lower, upper] interval.

The user must first choose the sequence type:

- halton
- hammersley

Then three keywords are used to define the sequence and how it is sampled:

- prime_base
- sequence_start
- sequence_leap

Each of these has defaults, so specification is optional.

Theory

The quasi-Monte Carlo sequences of Halton and Hammersley are deterministic sequences determined by a set of prime bases. Generally, we recommend that the user leave the default setting for the bases, which are the lowest primes. Thus, if one wants to generate a sample set for 3 random variables, the default bases used are 2, 3, and 5 in the Halton sequence. To give an example of how these sequences look, the Halton sequence in base 2 starts with points 0.5, 0.25, 0.75, 0.125, 0.625, etc. The first few points in a Halton base 3 sequence are 0.33333, 0.66667, 0.11111, 0.44444, 0.77777, etc. Notice that the Halton sequence tends to alternate back and forth, generating a point closer to zero then a point closer to one. An individual sequence is based on a radix inverse function defined on a prime base. The prime base determines how quickly the [0,1] interval is filled in. Generally, the lowest primes are recommended.

The Hammersley sequence is the same as the Halton sequence, except the values for the first random variable are equal to 1/N, where N is the number of samples. Thus, if one wants to generate a sample set of 100 samples for 3 random variables, the first random variable has values 1/100, 2/100, 3/100, etc. and the second and third variables are generated according to a Halton sequence with bases 2 and 3, respectively.


See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- dace
- fsu_cvt
- psuade_moat
halton

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- halton

Generate samples from a Halton sequence

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package.fsudace

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

Description

The quasi-Monte Carlo sequences of Halton are deterministic sequences determined by a set of prime bases. These sequences generate random numbers with the goal of filling a unit hypercube uniformly.

Generally, we recommend that the user leave the default setting for the bases, which are the lowest primes. Thus, if one wants to generate a sample set for 3 random variables, the default bases used are 2, 3, and 5 in the Halton sequence. To give an example of how these sequences look, the Halton sequence in base 2 starts with points 0.5, 0.25, 0.75, 0.125, 0.625, etc. The first few points in a Halton base 3 sequence are 0.33333, 0.66667, 0.11111, 0.44444, 0.77777, etc. Notice that the Halton sequence tends to alternate back and forth, generating a point closer to zero then a point closer to one. An individual sequence is based on a radix inverse function defined on a prime base. The prime base determines how quickly the [0,1] interval is filled in.

Theory


hammersley

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- hammersley

Use Hammersley sequences
6.2. METHOD

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_fsudace
- design_and_analysis_of_computer_experiments

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The Hammersley sequence is the same as the Halton sequence, except the values for the first random variable are equal to 1/N, where N is the number of samples. Thus, if one wants to generate a sample set of 100 samples for 3 random variables, the first random variable has values 1/100, 2/100, 3/100, etc. and the second and third variables are generated according to a Halton sequence with bases 2 and 3, respectively.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- fsu_quasi_mc

latinize

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- latinize

Adjust samples to improve the discrepancy of the marginal distributions

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The latinize control takes the samples and "latinizes" them, meaning that each original sample is moved so that it falls into one strata or bin in each dimension as in Latin Hypercube sampling. The default setting is NOT to latinize. However, one may be interested in doing this in situations where one wants better discrepancy of the 1-dimensional projections (the marginal distributions).
quality_metrics

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- quality_metrics

Calculate metrics to assess the quality of quasi-Monte Carlo samples

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- package_fsudace

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

`quality_metrics` calculates four quality metrics relating to the volumetric spacing of the samples. The four quality metrics measure different aspects relating to the uniformity of point samples in hypercubes. Desirable properties of such point samples are:

- are the points equally spaced
- do the points cover the region
- and are they isotropically distributed
- with no directional bias in the spacing

The four quality metrics we report are:

- h: the point distribution norm, which is a measure of uniformity of the point distribution
- chi: a regularity measure, and provides a measure of local uniformity of a set of points
- tau: the second moment trace measure
- d: the second moment determinant measure

All of these values are scaled so that smaller is better (the smaller the metric, the better the uniformity of the point distribution).

**Examples**

Complete explanation of these measures can be found in [[38] "Gunzburger and Burkardt, 2004."].
6.2. **METHOD**

variance-based_decomp

- **Keywords Area**
  - method
  - fsu_quasi_mc
  - variance_based_decomp

Activates global sensitivity analysis based on decomposition of response variance into contributions from variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>drop_tolerance</td>
<td>Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Dakota can calculate sensitivity indices through variance based decomposition using the keyword `variance-based_decomp`. These indicate how important the uncertainty in each input variable is in contributing to the output variance.

**Default Behavior**

Because of the computational cost, `variance_based_decomp` is turned off as a default.

If the user specified a number of samples, N, and a number of nondeterministic variables, M, variance-based decomposition requires the evaluation of $N(M+2)$ samples. **Note that specifying this keyword will increase the number of function evaluations above the number requested with the `samples` keyword since replicated sets of sample values are evaluated.**

**Expected Outputs**

When `variance_based_decomp` is specified, sensitivity indices for main effects and total effects will be reported. Main effects (roughly) represent the percent contribution of each individual variable to the variance in the model response. Total effects represent the percent contribution of each individual variable in combination with all other variables to the variance in the model response.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain sensitivity indices that are reasonably accurate, we recommend that N, the number of samples, be at least one hundred and preferably several hundred or thousands.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method,
sampling
  sample_type lhs
  samples = 100
  variance_based_decomp
```
Theory

In this context, we take sensitivity analysis to be global, not local as when calculating derivatives of output variables with respect to input variables. Our definition is similar to that of [[74] “Saltelli et al., 2004”]: “The study of how uncertainty in the output of a model can be apportioned to different sources of uncertainty in the model input.”

Variance based decomposition is a way of using sets of samples to understand how the variance of the output behaves, with respect to each input variable. A larger value of the sensitivity index, $S_i$, means that the uncertainty in the input variable $i$ has a larger effect on the variance of the output. More details on the calculations and interpretation of the sensitivity indices can be found in [[74] “Saltelli et al., 2004”] and [[88] “Weirs et al., 2010”].

**drop_tolerance**

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mce
- variance_based_decomp
- drop_tolerance

Suppresses output of sensitivity indices with values lower than this tolerance

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REAL

**Description**

The **drop_tolerance** keyword allows the user to specify a value below which sensitivity indices generated by **variance_based_decomp** are not displayed.

**Default Behavior**

By default, all sensitivity indices generated by **variance_based_decomp** are displayed.

**Usage Tips**

For **polynomial_chaos**, which outputs main, interaction, and total effects by default, the **univariate_effects** may be a more appropriate option. It allows suppression of the interaction effects since the output volume of these results can be prohibitive for high dimensional problems. Similar to suppression of these interactions is the covariance control, which can be selected to be diagonal_covariance or full_covariance, with the former supporting suppression of the off-diagonal covariance terms (to save compute and memory resources and reduce output volume).

**Examples**

```casl
method,
  sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 100
    variance_based_decomp
    drop_tolerance = 0.001
```
samples

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- samples

Number of samples for sampling-based methods

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `samples` keyword is used to define the number of samples (i.e., randomly chosen sets of variable values) at which to execute a model.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota will use the minimum number of samples required by the chosen method.

**Usage Tips**

To obtain linear sensitivities or to construct a linear response surface, at least \( \text{dim}+1 \) samples should be used, where "\( \text{dim} \)" is the number of variables. For sensitivities to quadratic terms or quadratic response surfaces, at least \( (\text{dim}+1)(\text{dim}+2)/2 \) samples are needed. For uncertainty quantification, we recommend at least \( 10\times \text{dim} \) samples. For `variance_based_decomp`, we recommend hundreds to thousands of samples. Note that for `variance_based_decomp`, the number of simulations performed will be \( N\times(\text{dim}+2) \).

**Examples**

```
method sampling
    sample_type lhs
    samples = 20
```

**fixed_sequence**

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- fixed_sequence

Reuse the same sequence and samples for multiple sampling sets

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
**Description**

The `fixed_sequence` control is similar to `fixed_seed` for other sampling methods. If `fixed_sequence` is specified, the user will get the same sequence (meaning the same set of samples) for subsequent calls of the QMC sampling method (for example, this might be used in a surrogate based optimization method or a parameter study where one wants to fix the uncertain variables).

**sequence_start**

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi.mc
- sequence_start

Choose where to start sampling the sequence

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

`sequence_start` determines where in the sequence the samples will start.

The default `sequence_start` is a vector with 0 for each variable, specifying that each sequence start with the first term.

**Examples**

For example, for the Halton sequence in base 2, if the user specifies `sequence_start = 2`, the sequence would not include 0.5 and 0.25, but instead would start at 0.75.

**sequence_leap**

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi.mc
- sequence_leap

Specify how often the sequence is sampled

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST
6.2. METHOD

Description

sequence_leap controls the "leaping" of terms in the sequence. The default is 1 for each variable, meaning that each term in the sequence be returned.

Examples

If the user specifies a sequence_leap of 2 for a variable, the points returned would be every other term from the QMC sequence.

Theory

The advantage to using a leap value greater than one is mainly for high-dimensional sets of random deviates. In this case, setting a leap value to the next prime number larger than the largest prime base can help maintain uniformity when generating sample sets for high dimensions. For more information about the efficacy of leaped Halton sequences, see [72] "Robinson and Atcitty, 1999”.

prime_base

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- prime_base

The prime numbers used to generate the sequence

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

It is recommended that the user not specify this and use the default values.

- For the Halton sequence, the default bases are primes in increasing order, starting with 2, 3, 5, etc.
- For the Hammersley sequence, the user specifies (s-1) primes if one is generating an s-dimensional set of random variables.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- fsu_quasi_mc
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method
Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'
```
6.2. METHOD

variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0. 0.
    upper_bounds = 1. 1.
    descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
    id_interface = 'I1'
    system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
    response_functions = 3
    no_gradients
    no_hessians

6.2.70 vector_parameter_study

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **vector_parameter_study**

Samples variables along a user-defined vector

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **parameter_studies**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>final_point</td>
<td>step_vector</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of sampling steps along the vector in a vector parameter study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>num_steps</th>
<th>Number of sampling steps along the vector in a vector parameter study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

Dakota’s vector parameter study computes response data sets at selected intervals along a vector in parameter space. It is often used for single-coordinate parameter studies (to study the effect of a single variable on a response set), but it can be used more generally for multiple coordinate vector studies (to investigate the response variations along some n-dimensional vector such as an optimizer search direction).

**Default Behavior**

By default, the multidimensional parameter study operates over all types of variables.

**Expected Outputs**

A multidimensional parameter study produces a set of responses for each parameter set that is generated.

**Usage Tips**

**Group 1** is used to define the vector along which the parameters are varied. Both cases also rely on the variables specification of an initial value, through:

- the *initial_point* keyword
- the *initial_state* keyword
- relying on the default initial value, based on the rest of the variables specification

From the initial value, the vector can be defined using one of the two keyword choices.

Once the vector is defined, the samples are then fully specified by num_steps.

### Examples

The following example is a good comparison to the examples on multidim.parameter_study and centered-parameter_study.

```plaintext
# tested on Dakota 6.0 on 140501
environment
  tabular_data
    tabular_data_file = 'rosen_vector.dat'
method
  vector_parameter_study
    num_steps = 10
    final_point = 2.0 2.0
model
  single
variables
  continuous_design = 2
    initial_point = -2.0 -2.0
    descriptors = 'x1' "x2"
```

6.2. METHOD

interface
   analysis_driver = 'rosenbrock'
   fork

responses
   response_functions = 1
   no_gradients
   no_hessians

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- centered_parameter_study
- multidim.parameter_study
- list_parameter_study

final_point

- Keywords Area
- method
- vector_parameter_study
- final_point

Final variable values defining vector in vector parameter study

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The final_point keyword is used to define the final values for each variable on the vector to be used in the vector parameter study. The vector’s direction and magnitude are determined by the initial value from the variables specification, and the final_point.

Default Behavior
The user is required to specify either final_point or step_vector. There is no default definition for the vector.

Usage Tips
The actual points are determined based on this vector and the number of points chosen is given in num_points.

Examples
method
   vector_parameter_study
   num_steps = 10
   final_point = 2.0 2.0
**step_vector**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **vector_parameter_study**
- **step_vector**

Number of sampling steps along the vector in a vector parameter study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

`num_steps` defines the number of steps that are taken in the direction of the vector. The magnitude of each step is determined in conjunction with the rest of the method specification.

**Default Behavior**

The user is required to specify `num_steps` for a vector parameter study. There is no default value.

This study performs function evaluations at both ends, making the total number of evaluations equal to `num_steps+1`.

**Usage Tips**

The study has stringent requirements on performing appropriate steps with any discrete range and discrete set variables. A `num_steps` specification must result in discrete range and set index steps that are integers: no remainder is currently permitted in the integer step calculation and no rounding to integer steps will occur.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  vector_parameter_study
  num_steps = 10
  final_point  =  2.0   2.0
```

**num_steps**

- **Keywords Area**
- **method**
- **vector_parameter_study**
- **num_steps**

Number of sampling steps along the vector in a vector parameter study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
6.2. METHOD

Description

$num_{steps}$ defines the number of steps that are taken in the direction of the vector. The magnitude of each step is determined in conjunction with the rest of the method specification.

**Default Behavior**

The user is required to specify $num_{steps}$ for a vector parameter study. There is no default value.

This study performs function evaluations at both ends, making the total number of evaluations equal to $num_{steps}+1$.

**Usage Tips**

The study has stringent requirements on performing appropriate steps with any discrete range and discrete set variables. A $num_{steps}$ specification must result in discrete range and set index steps that are integers: no remainder is currently permitted in the integer step calculation and no rounding to integer steps will occur.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  vector_parameter_study
    num_steps = 10
    final_point = 2.0 2.0

model_pointer
```

- Keywords Area
- method
- vector_parameter_study
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

**Default Behavior**

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

**Usage Tips**

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.
Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = ‘UQ’

method
  id_method = ‘UQ’
  model_pointer = ‘SURR’
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = ‘SURR’
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = ‘DACE’
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = ‘DACE’
  model_pointer = ‘DACE_M’
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = ‘DACE_M’
  single
  interface_pointer = ‘I1’

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 0.0
    upper_bounds = 1.1
    descriptors = ‘x1’ ‘x2’

interface
  id_interface = ‘I1’
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
    analysis_driver = ‘text_book’

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.71 list_parameter_study

- Keywords Area
- method
- list_parameter_study

Samples variables as a specified values
6.2. METHOD

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- parameter_studies

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of Group 1 | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Required/Optional Choose One | | list_of_points | List of variable values to evaluate in a list parameter study |
| import_points_file | File containing variable values and corresponding responses |
| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

Description

Dakota’s list parameter study allows for evaluations at user selected points of interest.

Default Behavior

By default, the list parameter study operates over all types of variables.

The number of real values in the list_of_points specification or file referenced by import_points_file must be a multiple of the total number of variables (including continuous and discrete types) contained in the variables specification.

Expected Outputs

A list parameter study produces a set of responses for each parameter set that is specified.

Usage Tips

- This parameter study simply performs simulations for the first parameter set (the first \( n \) entries in the list), followed by the next parameter set (the next \( n \) entries), and so on, until the list of points has been exhausted.

- Since the initial values from the variables specification will not be used, they need not be specified.

- For discrete set types, the actual values should be specified, not the set indices, although the values will be validated for membership within the set value specifications.

Examples

This shows the method and variables block of a Dakota input file that runs a list_parameter_study.
method
  list_parameter_study
  list_of_points =
  3.1e6 0.0029 0.31
  3.2e6 0.0028 0.32
  3.3e6 0.0027 0.34
  3.3e6 0.0026 0.36

variables
  continuous_design = 3
  descriptors = 'E' 'MASS' 'DENSITY'

Note that because of the way Dakota treats whitespace, the above example is equivalent to:

method
  list_parameter_study
  list_of_points =
  3.1e6 0.0029 0.31 3.2e6 0.0028 0.32 3.3e6 0.0027 0.34 3.3e6 0.0026 0.36

variables
  continuous_design = 3
  descriptors = 'E' 'MASS' 'DENSITY'

Although the first example is much more readable.

And here’s a full input file:

`# tested on Dakota 6.0 on 140501`
environment
tabular_data
tabular_data_file 'List_param_study.dat'

method
  list_parameter_study
  list_of_points =
  0.1 0.1
  0.2 0.1
  0.3 0.0
  0.3 1.0

model
  single
variables
  active design
  continuous_design = 2
  descriptors 'x1' 'x2'
  continuous_state = 1
  descriptors = 'constant1'
  initial_state = 100

interface
  analysis_drivers 'text_book'
  fork
  asynchronous
  evaluation_concurrency 2

responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

This example illustrates the list_parameter_study.
6.2. METHOD

- The function evaluations are independent, so any level of `evaluation_concurrency` can be used.
- Default behavior for parameter studies is to iterate on all variables. However, because `active_design` is specified, this study will only iterate on the `continuous_design` variables.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `centered_parameter_study`
- `multidim_parameter_study`
- `vector_parameter_study`

`list_of_points`

- Keywords Area
- `method`
- `list_parameter_study`
- `list_of_points`

List of variable values to evaluate in a list parameter study

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): `REALLIST`

Description

The `list_of_points` keyword allows the user to specify, in a freeform format, a list of variable values at which to compute a model response.

Default Behavior

The user is required to provide a list of points for a list parameter study either by specifying it with `list_of_points` or by providing a file from which such a list can be read via `import_points_file`. There is no default list of points.

Usage Tips

The number of values in the list must be an integer multiple of the number of variables. Dakota will verify that this condition is met.

Examples

```
method
list_parameter_study
list_of_points =
  3.1e6  0.0029  0.31
  3.2e6  0.0028  0.32
  3.3e6  0.0027  0.34
  3.3e6  0.0026  0.36
```
import_points_file

- Keywords Area
- method
- list_parameter_study
- import_points_file

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td>Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```
method
list_parameter_study
import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```
6.2. METHOD

annotated

- Keywords Area
- method
- list_parameter_study
- import_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```
**freeform**

- Keywords Area
- method
- list_parameter_study
- import_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```python
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
```
active_only

- Keywords Area
- method
- list_parameter_study
- import_points_file
- active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword active_only indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- list_parameter_study
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): STRING

Description

The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model-pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```
environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURR'
  sampling,
    samples = 10
    seed = 98765 rng rnum2
    response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
    0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURR'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'
```
6.2. METHOD

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.72 centered_parameter_study

- Keywords Area
- method
- centered_parameter_study

Samples variables along points moving out from a center point

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- parameter_studies

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>steps_per_variable</td>
<td></td>
<td>Size of steps to be taken in each dimension of a centered parameter study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of steps to take in each dimension of a centered parameter study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Optional | model_pointer | Identifier for model block to be used by a method |

**Description**

Dakota’s centered parameter study computes response data sets along multiple coordinate-based vectors, one per parameter, centered about the initial values from the variables specification. This is useful for investigation of function contours with respect to each parameter individually in the vicinity of a specific point (e.g., post-optimality analysis for verification of a minimum), thereby avoiding the cost associated with a multidimensional grid.

**Default Behavior**

By default, the centered parameter study operates over all types of variables. The centered parameter study takes steps along each orthogonal dimension. Each dimension is treated independently. The number of steps are taken in each direction, so that the total number of points in the parameter study is \(1 + 2 \sum n\).

**Expected Outputs**

A centered parameter study produces a set of responses for each parameter set that is generated.

**Examples**

The following example is a good comparison to the examples on multidim parameter study and vector parameter study.

```plaintext
# tested on Dakota 6.0 on 140501
environment
tabular_data
  tabular_data_file = 'rosen_centered.dat'

method
centered_parameter_study
  steps_per_variable = 5 4
  step_vector = 0.4 0.5

model
  single

variables
  continuous_design = 2
    initial_point = 0 0
descriptors = 'x1' "x2"

interface
  analysis_driver = 'rosenbrock'
    fork

responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:
6.2. METHOD

- multidim_parameter_study
- list_parameter_study
- vector_parameter_study

**step_vector**

- Keywords Area
- method
- centered_parameter_study
- step_vector

Size of steps to be taken in each dimension of a centered parameter study

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The `step_vector` keyword defines the individual step size in each dimension, treated separately.

**Default Behavior**

The user is required to define the number of step sizes for a centered parameter study. There are no default values.

Steps are taken in the plus and minus directions, and are defined in either actual values (continuous and discrete range) or index offsets (discrete set).

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  centered_parameter_study
  steps_per_variable = 5 4
  step_vector = 0.4 0.5
```

**steps_per_variable**

- Keywords Area
- method
- centered_parameter_study
- steps_per_variable

Number of steps to take in each dimension of a centered parameter study

**Specification**

**Alias:** deltas_per_variable

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The `steps_per_variable` keyword allows the user to define the number of steps in each dimension of a centered parameter study. Because they are taken independently, the number of steps can be specified for each.

Default Behavior

The user is required to define the number of steps per variable for a centered parameter study. There are no default values.

Steps are taken in the plus and minus directions, and are defined in either actual values (continuous and discrete range) or index offsets (discrete set).

Examples

```plaintext
method centered_parameter_study
  steps_per_variable = 5 4
  step_vector = 0.4 0.5
```

`model_pointer`

- Keywords Area
- method
- centered_parameter_study
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `block_pointer`

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.
6.2. METHOD

Examples

environment
  tabular_graphics_data
  method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
  id_method = 'UQ'
  model_pointer = 'SURRE'
  sampling,
  samples = 10
  seed = 98765 rng rnum2
  response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
  0.1 0.2 0.6
  sample_type lhs
  distribution cumulative

model
  id_model = 'SURRE'
  surrogate global,
  dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
  polynomial quadratic

method
  id_method = 'DACE'
  model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
  sampling sample_type lhs
  samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
  id_model = 'DACE_M'
  single
  interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
  uniform_uncertain = 2
  lower_bounds = 0. 0.
  upper_bounds = 1. 1.
  descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
  id_interface = 'I1'
  system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
  analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians

6.2.73 multidim_parameter_study

- Keywords Area
- method
- multidim_parameter_study

Samples variables on full factorial grid of study points
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- parameter_studies

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>Group</td>
<td>partitions</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Samples variables on full factorial grid of study points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Dakota’s multidimensional parameter study computes response data sets for an n-dimensional grid of points. Each continuous and discrete range variable is partitioned into equally spaced intervals between its upper and lower bounds, each discrete set variable is partitioned into equally spaced index intervals. The partition boundaries in n-dimensional space define a grid of points, and every point is evaluated.

Default Behavior

By default, the multidimensional parameter study operates over all types of variables.

Expected Outputs

A multidimensional parameter study produces a set of responses for each parameter set that is generated.

Usage Tips

Since the initial values from the variables specification will not be used, they need not be specified.

Examples

This example is taken from the Users Manual and is a good comparison to the examples on centered_parameter_study and vector_parameter_study.

```bash
# tested on Dakota 6.0 on 140501
environment
    tabular_data
    tabular_data_file = 'rosen_multidim.dat'

method
    multidim_parameter_study
    partitions = 10 8

model
    single

variables
    continuous_design = 2
    lower_bounds -2.0 -2.0
    upper_bounds 2.0 2.0
```
This example illustrates the full factorial combinations of parameter values created by the multidim ParameterStudy. With 10 and 8 partitions, there are actually 11 and 9 values for each variable. This means that $11 \times 9 = 99$ function evaluations will be required.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- centered ParameterStudy
- list ParameterStudy
- vector ParameterStudy

Partitions

- Keywords Area
- method
- multidim ParameterStudy
- partitions

Samples variables on full factorial grid of study points

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- parameter studies

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

Dakota’s multidimensional parameter study computes response data sets for an n-dimensional grid of points. Each continuous and discrete range variable is partitioned into equally spaced intervals between its upper and lower bounds, each discrete set variable is partitioned into equally spaced index intervals. The partition boundaries in n-dimensional space define a grid of points, and every point is evaluated.

Default Behavior
By default, the multidimensional parameter study operates over all types of variables.

**Expected Outputs**

A multidimensional parameter study produces a set of responses for each parameter set that is generated.

**Usage Tips**

Since the initial values from the variables specification will not be used, they need not be specified.

**Examples**

This example is taken from the Users Manual and is a good comparison to the examples on `centered_parameter_study` and `vector_parameter_study`.

```plaintext
# tested on Dakota 6.0 on 140501
environment
tabular_data
  tabular_data_file = 'rosen_multidim.dat'
method
  multidim_parameter_study
    partitions = 10
model
  single
variables
  continuous_design = 2
    lower_bounds  -2.0  -2.0
    upper_bounds  2.0   2.0
    descriptors   'x1'  "x2"
interface
  analysis_driver = 'rosenbrock'
  fork
responses
  response_functions = 1
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

This example illustrates the full factorial combinations of parameter values created by the `multidim_parameter_study`. With 10 and 8 partitions, there are actually 11 and 9 values for each variable. This means that $11 \times 9 = 99$ function evaluations will be required.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `centered_parameter_study`
- `list_parameter_study`
- `vector_parameter_study`

**model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- method
6.2. METHOD

- multidim_parameter_study
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The model_pointer is used to specify which model block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior
If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a model block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding id_model with the same name.

Usage Tips
When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a model_pointer for each method is imperative.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SRR'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
            0.1 0.2 0.6
            0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SRR'
    surrogate global,
        dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
        polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
```
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

sampling sample_type lhs
samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
id_model = 'DACE_M'
single
interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
uniform_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 0. 0.
upper_bounds = 1. 1.
descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
id_interface = 'I1'
system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.2.74 richardson_extrap

- Keywords Area

- method

- richardson_extrap

Estimate order of convergence of a response as model fidelity increases

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
### Description

Solution verification procedures estimate the order of convergence of the simulation response data during the course of a refinement study. This branch of methods is new and currently only contains one algorithm: Richardson extrapolation.

**Refinement of the model**

The model fidelity must be parameterized by one or more continuous state variable(s).

The refinement path is determined from the initial state of the continuous state variables specification in combination with the refinement rate, where each of the state variables is treated as an independent refinement factor and each of the initial state values is repeatedly divided by the refinement rate value to define new discretization states.

**Results**

Three algorithm options are currently provided:

1. estimate_order
2. converge_order
3. converge_qoi

**Stopping Criteria**

The method employs the max_iterations and convergence_tolerance method independent controls as stopping criteria.

### Theory

In each of these cases, convergence order for a response quantity of interest (QoI) is estimated from

\[ p = \ln \left( \frac{QoI_3 - QoI_2}{QoI_2 - QoI_1} \right) / \ln(r) \]

where \( r \) is the uniform refinement rate specified by refinement_rate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>estimate_order</td>
<td>Compute the best estimate of the convergence order from three points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>converge_order</td>
<td>Refine until the estimated convergence order converges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>converge_qoi</td>
<td>Refine until the response converges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>refinement_rate</td>
<td>Rate at which the state variables are refined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>model_pointer</td>
<td>Identifier for model block to be used by a method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
estimate_order
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - richardson_extrap
  - estimate_order
  
  Compute the best estimate of the convergence order from three points

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `estimate_order` option is the simplest option. For each of the refinement factors, it evaluates three points along the refinement path and uses these results to perform an estimate of the convergence order for each response function.

converge_order
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - richardson_extrap
  - converge_order
  
  Refine until the estimated convergence order converges

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `converge_order` option is initialized using the `estimate_order` approach, and additional refinements are performed along the refinement path until the convergence order estimates converge (two-norm of the change in response orders is less than the convergence tolerance).

converge_qoi
  - Keywords Area
  - method
  - richardson_extrap
  - converge_qoi
  
  Refine until the response converges
6.2. METHOD

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The `converge_qoi` option is similar to the `converge_order` option, except that the convergence criterion is that the two-norm of the response discretization errors (computed from extrapolation) must be less than the convergence tolerance.

refinement_rate

- Keywords Area
- method
- richardson_extrap
- refinement_rate

Rate at which the state variables are refined

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description

Described on parent page

model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- method
- richardson_extrap
- model_pointer

Identifier for model block to be used by a method

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING
Chapter 6: Keywords Area

Description

The `model_pointer` is used to specify which `model` block will be used to perform the function evaluations needed by the Dakota method.

Default Behavior

If not specified, a Dakota method will use the last model block parsed. If specified, there must be a `model` block in the Dakota input file that has a corresponding `id_model` with the same name.

Usage Tips

When doing advanced analyses that involve using multiple methods and multiple models, defining a `model_pointer` for each method is imperative.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Examples

```plaintext
environment
    tabular_graphics_data
    method_pointer = 'UQ'

method
    id_method = 'UQ'
    model_pointer = 'SURR'
    sampling,
        samples = 10
        seed = 98765 rng rnum2
        response_levels = 0.1 0.2 0.6
            0.1 0.2 0.6
            0.1 0.2 0.6
    sample_type lhs
    distribution cumulative

model
    id_model = 'SURR'
    surrogate global,
        dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
        polynomial quadratic

method
    id_method = 'DACE'
    model_pointer = 'DACE_M'
    sampling sample_type lhs
        samples = 121 seed = 5034 rng rnum2

model
    id_model = 'DACE_M'
    single
    interface_pointer = 'I1'

variables
    uniform_uncertain = 2
        lower_bounds = 0. 0.
        upper_bounds = 1. 1.
        descriptors = 'x1' 'x2'

interface
    id_interface = 'I1'
    system asynch evaluation_concurrency = 5
        analysis_driver = 'text_book'

responses
```
response_functions = 3
no_gradients
no_hessians

6.3 model

- Keywords Area

- model

Specifies how variables are mapped into a set of responses

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>id_model</td>
<td></td>
<td>Give the model block an identifying name, in case of multiple model blocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>variables_pointer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which variables block will be included with this model block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>responses_pointer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which responses block will be used by this model block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>hierarchical_tagging</td>
<td></td>
<td>Enables hierarchical evaluation tagging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required*(Choose One)*</td>
<td>single</td>
<td></td>
<td>A model with one of each block: variable, interface, and response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

A model is comprised of a mapping from variables, through an interface, to responses.

**Model Group 1** The type of model can be:

1. single
2. nested
3. surrogate

The input file must specify one of these types. If the type is not specified, Dakota will assume a single model.

**Block Pointers and ID**

Each of these model types supports `variables_pointer` and `responses_pointer` strings for identifying the variables and responses specifications used in constructing the model by cross-referencing with `id_variables` and `id_responses` strings from particular variables and responses keyword specifications.

These pointers are valid for each model type since each model contains a set of variables that is mapped into a set of responses – only the specifics of the mapping differ.

Additional pointers are used for each model type for constructing the components of the variable to response mapping. As an environment specification identifies a top-level method and a method specification identifies a model, a model specification identifies variables, responses, and (for some types) interface specifications. This top-down flow specifies all of the object interrelationships.

### Examples

The next example displays a surrogate model specification which selects a quadratic polynomial from among the global approximation methods. It uses a pointer to a design of experiments method for generating the data needed for building the global approximation, reuses any old data available for the current approximation region, and employs the first-order multiplicative approach to correcting the approximation each time correction is requested.

```plaintext
model,
   id_model = 'M1'
   variables_pointer = 'V1'
   responses_pointer = 'R1'
   surrogate
      global
         polynomial quadratic
         dace_method_pointer = 'DACE'
         reuse_samples region
         correction multiplicative first_order
```
This example demonstrates the use of identifiers and pointers. It provides the optional model independent specifications for model identifier, variables pointer, and responses pointer as well as model dependent specifications for global surrogates (see global).

Finally, an advanced nested model example would be

```
model
    id_model = 'M1'
    variables_pointer = 'V1'
    responses_pointer = 'R1'
    nested
        optional_interface_pointer = 'OI1'
        optional_interface_responses_pointer = 'OIR1'
        sub_method_pointer = 'SM1'
        primary_variable_mapping = '' '' 'X' 'Y'
        secondary_variable_mapping = '' '' 'mean' 'mean'
        primary_response_mapping = 1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
        secondary_response_mapping = 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.3 0.0 0.0 0.0
```

This example also supplies model independent controls for model identifier, variables pointer, and responses pointer and supplies model dependent controls for specifying details of the nested mapping.

### 6.3.1 id_model

- **Keywords Area**
  - model
  - id_model

  Give the model block an identifying name, in case of multiple model blocks.

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_identifier

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* STRING

**Description**

The model identifier string is supplied with `id_model` and is used to provide a unique identifier string for use within method specifications (refer to any of the keywords: `model_pointer` in under one of the methods in the `method` block, for example: `model_pointer`)

This is used to determine which model the method will run.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- model_pointer
6.3.2 variables_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- variables_pointer

Specify which variables block will be included with this model block

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Selected Argument(s): STRING

Description

The variables_pointer is used to specify which variables block will be used by the model, by cross-referencing with id_variables keyword in the variables block.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

6.3.3 responses_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- responses_pointer

Specify which responses block will be used by this model block

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Selected Argument(s): STRING

Description

The responses_pointer is used to specify which responses block will be used by the model, by cross-referencing with id_responses keyword in the responses block.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.
6.3.4 hierarchical_tagging

- Keywords Area
- model
- hierarchical_tagging

Enables hierarchical evaluation tagging

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The hierarchical tagging option is useful for studies involving multiple models with a nested or hierarchical relationship. For example, a nested model has a sub-method, which itself likely operates on a sub-model, or a hierarchical approximation involves coordination of low and high fidelity models. Specifying `hierarchical_tagging` will yield function evaluation identifiers ("tags") composed of the evaluation IDs of the models involved, e.g., outermodel.innermodel.interfaceid = 4.9.2. This communicates the outer contexts to the analysis driver when performing a function evaluation.

**Examples**

test/dakota_uq_timeseries_ivp_optinterf.in test/dakota_uq_timeseries_sop_optinterf.in

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `file_tag` model-nested

6.3.5 single

- Keywords Area
- model
- single

A model with one of each block: variable, interface, and response

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>interface_pointer</td>
<td>Interface block pointer for the single model type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Description**

The single model is the simplest model type. It uses a single interface instance to map variables into responses. There is no recursion in this case.

The optional `interface_pointer` specification identifies the interface block by cross-referencing with the `id-interface` string input from a particular interface keyword specification. This is only necessary when the input file has multiple interface blocks, and you wish to explicitly point to the desired block. The same logic follows for responses and variables blocks and pointers.

**Examples**

The example shows a minimal specification for a single model, which is the default model when no models are specified by the user.

```
model
  single
```

This example does not provide any pointer strings and therefore relies on the default behavior of constructing the model with the last variables, interface, and responses specifications parsed.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `surrogate`
- `nested`

**interface_pointer**

- `Keywords Area`
- `model`
- `single`
- `interface_pointer`

Interface block pointer for the single model type

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `block_pointer`

**Specification**

*Alias*: none

*Argument(s)*: STRING
6.3. MODEL

Description

In the single model case, a single interface is used to map the variables into responses. The optional interface-pointer specification identifies this interface by cross-referencing with the id_interface string input from a particular interface keyword specification. See block_pointer for details about pointers.

6.3.6 surrogate

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate

An empirical model that is created from data or the results of a submodel

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>id_surrogates</td>
<td>Identifies the subset of the response functions by number that are to be approximated (the default is all functions). Select a surrogate model with global support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>multipoint</td>
<td>Construct a surrogate from multiple existing training points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>local</td>
<td>Build a locally accurate surrogate from data at a single point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>hierarchical</td>
<td>Hierarchical approximations use corrected results from a low fidelity model as an approximation to the results of a high fidelity “truth” model.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

Surrogate models are inexpensive approximate models that are intended to capture the salient features of an expensive high-fidelity model. They can be used to explore the variations in response quantities over regions of the parameter space, or they can serve as inexpensive stand-ins for optimization or uncertainty quantification studies (see, for example, the surrogate-based optimization methods, surrogate_based_global and surrogate_based_local).

Surrogate models supported in Dakota are categorized as Data Fitting or Hierarchical, as shown below. Each of these surrogate types provides an approximate representation of a "truth" model which is used to perform the parameter to response mappings. This approximation is built and updated using results from the truth model, called the "training data".

- Data fits:
  Data fitting methods involve construction of an approximation or surrogate model using data (response values, gradients, and Hessians) generated from the original truth model. Data fit methods can be further categorized as local, multipoint, and global approximation techniques, based on the number of points used in generating the data fit.

  1. Local: built from response data from a single point in parameter space
     - Taylor series expansion: taylor_series
       Training data consists of a single point, plus gradient and Hessian information.
  2. Multipoint: built from two or more points in parameter space, often involving the current and previous iterates of a minimization algorithm.
     - TANA-3: tana
       Training Data comes from a few previously evaluated points
  3. Global full space response surface methods:
     - Polynomial regression: polynomial
     - Gaussian process (Kriging): gaussian_process
     - Artificial neutral network: neural_network
     - MARS: mars
     - Radial Basis Functions: radial_basis
     - Orthogonal polynomials (only supported in PCE/SC for now): polynomial_chaos and stoch_-collocation
       Training data is generated using either a design of experiments method applied to the truth model (specified by dace_method_pointer), or from saved data (specified by reuse_points) in a restart database, or an import file.

- Multifidelity/hierarchical:
  Multifidelity modeling involves the use of a low-fidelity physics-based model as a surrogate for the original high-fidelity model. The low-fidelity model typically involves a coarser mesh, looser convergence tolerances, reduced element order, or omitted physics.

  See hierarchical.

  The global and hierarchal surrogates have a correction feature in order to improve the local accuracy of the surrogate models. The correction factors force the surrogate models to match the true function values and possibly true function derivatives at the center point of each trust region. Details can be found on global correction or hierarchical correction.
Theory

Surrogate models are used extensively in the surrogate-based optimization and least squares methods, in which the goals are to reduce expense by minimizing the number of truth function evaluations and to smooth out noisy data with a global data fit. However, the use of surrogate models is not restricted to optimization techniques; uncertainty quantification and optimization under uncertainty methods are other primary users.

Data Fit Surrogate Models

A surrogate of the \{data fit\} type is a non-physics-based approximation typically involving interpolation or regression of a set of data generated from the original model. Data fit surrogates can be further characterized by the number of data points used in the fit, where a local approximation (e.g., first or second-order Taylor series) uses data from a single point, a multipoint approximation (e.g., two-point exponential approximations (TPEA) or two-point adaptive nonlinearity approximations (TANA)) uses a small number of data points often drawn from the previous iterates of a particular algorithm, and a global approximation (e.g., polynomial response surfaces, kriging/gaussian process, neural networks, radial basis functions, splines) uses a set of data points distributed over the domain of interest, often generated using a design of computer experiments.

Dakota contains several types of surface fitting methods that can be used with optimization and uncertainty quantification methods and strategies such as surrogate-based optimization and optimization under uncertainty. These are: polynomial models (linear, quadratic, and cubic), first-order Taylor series expansion, kriging spatial interpolation, artificial neural networks, multivariate adaptive regression splines, radial basis functions, and moving least squares. With the exception of Taylor series methods, all of the above methods listed in the previous sentence are accessed in Dakota through the Surfpack library. All of these surface fitting methods can be applied to problems having an arbitrary number of design parameters. However, surface fitting methods usually are practical only for problems where there are a small number of parameters (e.g., a maximum of somewhere in the range of 30-50 design parameters). The mathematical models created by surface fitting methods have a variety of names in the engineering community. These include surrogate models, meta-models, approximation models, and response surfaces. For this manual, the terms surface fit model and surrogate model are used.

The data fitting methods in Dakota include software developed by Sandia researchers and by various researchers in the academic community.

Multifidelity Surrogate Models

A second type of surrogate is the \{model hierarchy\} type (also called multifidelity, variable fidelity, variable complexity, etc.). In this case, a model that is still physics-based but is of lower fidelity (e.g., coarser discretization, reduced element order, looser convergence tolerances, omitted physics) is used as the surrogate in place of the high-fidelity model. For example, an inviscid, incompressible Euler CFD model on a coarse discretization could be used as a low-fidelity surrogate for a high-fidelity Navier-Stokes model on a fine discretization.

Surrogate Model Selection

This section offers some guidance on choosing from among the available surrogate model types.

- For Surrogate Based Local Optimization, using the `surrogate_based_local` method with a trust region:
  using the keywords:
  1. surrogate local taylor_series or
  2. surrogate multipoint tana

  will probably work best.
  If for some reason you wish or need to use a global surrogate (not recommended) then the best of these options is likely to be either:
  1. surrogate global gaussian_process surfpack or
  2. surrogate global moving_least_squares.
• For Efficient Global Optimization (EGO), the `efficient_global` method:

  the default surrogate is: `gaussian_process surfpack` which is likely to find a more optimal value and/or require fewer true function evaluations than the alternative, `gaussian_process dakota`. However, the `surfpack` will likely take more time to build than the `dakota` version. Note that currently the `use_derivatives` keyword is not recommended for use with EGO based methods.

• For EGO based global interval estimation, the `global_interval_est ego` method:

  the default `gaussian_process surfpack` will likely work better than the alternative `gaussian_process dakota`.

• For Efficient Global Reliability Analysis (EGRA), the `global_reliability` method:

  the `surfpack` and `dakota` versions of the gaussian process tend to give similar answers with the `dakota` version tending to use fewer true function evaluations. Since this is based on EGO, it is likely that the default `surfpack` is more accurate, although this has not been rigorously demonstrated.

• For EGO based Dempster-Shafer Theory of Evidence, i.e. the `global_evidence ego` method, the default `gaussian_process surfpack` often use significantly fewer true function evaluations than the alternative `gaussian_process dakota`.

• When using a global surrogate to extrapolate, any of the surrogates:

  - `gaussian_process surfpack`
  - `polynomial quadratic`
  - `polynomial cubic`

  are recommended.

• When there is over roughly two or three thousand data points and you wish to interpolate (or approximately interpolate) then a Taylor series, Radial Basis Function Network, or Moving Least Squares fit is recommended. The only reason that the `gaussian_process surfpack` is not recommended is that it can take a considerable amount of time to construct when the number of data points is very large. Use of the third party MARS package included in Dakota is generally discouraged.

• In other situations that call for a global surrogate, the `gaussian_process surfpack` is generally recommended. The `use_derivatives` keyword will only be useful if accurate and inexpensive derivatives are available. Finite difference derivatives are disqualified on both counts. However, derivatives generated by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques can be appropriate. Currently, first order derivatives, i.e. gradients, are the highest order derivatives that can be used to construct the `gaussian_process surfpack` model; Hessians will not be used even if they are available.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

• `single`

• `nested`
id_surrogates

• Keywords Area

• model

• surrogate

• id_surrogates

Identifies the subset of the response functions by number that are to be approximated (the default is all functions).

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* INTEGERLIST

**Description**

In the surrogate model case, the specification first allows a mixture of surrogate and actual response mappings through the use of the optional id_surrogates specification. This identifies the subset of the response functions by number that are to be approximated (the default is all functions). The valid response function identifiers range from 1 through the total number of response functions (see response_functions).

global

• Keywords Area

• model

• surrogate

• global

Select a surrogate model with global support

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none
### CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td><code>gaussian_process</code></td>
<td>Gaussian Process surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>mars</code></td>
<td>Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline (MARS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>moving_least_squares</code></td>
<td>Moving Least Squares surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>neural_network</code></td>
<td>Artificial neural network model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>radial_basis</code></td>
<td>Radial basis function (RBF) model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>polynomial</code></td>
<td>Polynomial surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td><code>total_points</code></td>
<td>Specified number of training points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>minimum_points</code></td>
<td>Construct surrogate with minimum number of points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><code>recommended_points</code></td>
<td>Construct surrogate with recommended number of points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td><code>dace_method_pointer</code></td>
<td>Specify a method to gather training data Surrogate model training data reuse control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td><code>reuse_points</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3. MODEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>import_points_file</th>
<th>File containing variable values and corresponding responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_points_file</td>
<td>Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>use_derivatives</td>
<td>Use derivative data to construct surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>correction</td>
<td>Correction approaches for surrogate models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>metrics</td>
<td>Compute surrogate quality metrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>challenge_points_file</td>
<td>Datafile of points to assess surrogate quality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The global surrogate model requires specification of one of the following approximation types:

1. Polynomial
2. Gaussian process (Kriging interpolation)
3. Layered perceptron artificial neural network approximation
4. MARS
5. Moving least squares
6. Radial basis function

All these approximations are implemented in SurfPack[36]. In addition, a second version of Gaussian process is implemented directly in Dakota.

**Training Data**

Training data can be taken from prior runs, stored in a datafile, or by running a Design of Experiments method. The keywords listed below are used to determine how to collect training data:

- dace_method_pointer
- reuse_points
- import_points_file
• use_derivatives The source of training data is determined by the contents of a provided import_points_file, whether reuse_points and use_derivatives are specified, and the contents of the method block specified by dace_method_pointer. use_derivatives is a special case, the other keywords are discussed below.

The number of training data points used in building a global approximation is determined by specifying one of three point counts:

1. minimum_points: minimum required or minimum "reasonable" amount of training data. Defaults to d+1 for d input dimensions for most models, e.g., polynomials override to the number of coefficients required to estimate the requested order.

2. recommended_points: recommended number of training data, (this is the default option, if none of the keywords is specified). Defaults to 5*d, except for polynomials where it's equal to the minimum.

3. total_points: specify the number of training data points. However, if the total_points value is less than the default minimum_points value, the minimum_points value is used.

The sources of training data depend on the number of training points, $N_{\text{tp}}$, the number of points in the import file, $N_{\text{if}}$, and the value of reuse_points.

• If there is no import file, all training data come from the DACE method

• If there is an import file, all $N_{\text{if}}$ points from the file are used, and the remaining $N_{\text{tp}} - N_{\text{if}}$ points come from the DACE method

• If there is an import file and reuse_points is:
  - none - all $N_{\text{ip}}$ points from DACE method
  - region - only the points within a trust region are taken from the import file, and all remaining points are from the DACE method.
  - all - (Default) all $N_{\text{if}}$ points from the file are used, and the remaining $N_{\text{tp}} - N_{\text{if}}$ points come from the DACE method

**Surrogate Correction**

A correction model can be added to the constructed surrogate in order to better match the training data. The specified correction method will be applied to the surrogate, and then the corrected surrogate model is used by the method.

Finally, the quality of the surrogate can be tested using the metrics and challenge_points_file keywords.

**Theory**

Global methods, also referred to as response surface methods, involve many points spread over the parameter ranges of interest. These surface fitting methods work in conjunction with the sampling methods and design of experiments methods.

**Procedures for Surface Fitting**

The surface fitting process consists of three steps:

1. selection of a set of design points

2. evaluation of the true response quantities (e.g., from a user-supplied simulation code) at these design points,
3. using the response data to solve for the unknown coefficients (e.g., polynomial coefficients, neural network weights, kriging correlation factors) in the surface fit model.

In cases where there is more than one response quantity (e.g., an objective function plus one or more constraints), then a separate surface is built for each response quantity. Currently, the surface fit models are built using only 0th-order information (function values only), although extensions to using higher-order information (gradients and Hessians) are possible.

Each surface fitting method employs a different numerical method for computing its internal coefficients. For example, the polynomial surface uses a least-squares approach that employs a singular value decomposition to compute the polynomial coefficients, whereas the kriging surface uses Maximum Likelihood Estimation to compute its correlation coefficients. More information on the numerical methods used in the surface fitting codes is provided in the Dakota Developers Manual.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- local
- hierarchical
- multipoint

gaussian_process

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process

Gaussian Process surrogate model

Specification

Alias: kriging

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>surffpack</td>
<td>Use the Surffpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Dakota uses the Gaussian process (GP) surrogate from Surfpack, which is specified using the surfpack keyword. A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

dakota
  • Keywords Area
  • model
  • surrogate
  • global
  • gaussian_process
  • dakota

Select the built in Gaussian Process surrogate

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>point_selection</td>
<td>Enable greedy selection of well-spaced build points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>trend</td>
<td>Choose a trend function for a Gaussian process surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

A second version of GP surrogates was available in prior versions of Dakota. For now, both versions are supported but the dakota version is deprecated and intended to be removed in a future release.

Historically these models were drastically different, but in Dakota 5.1, they became quite similar. They now differ in that the Surfpack GP has a richer set of features/options and tends to be more accurate than the Dakota version. Due to how the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioned correlation matrices (which significantly contributes to its greater accuracy), the Surfpack GP can be a factor of two or three slower than Dakota’s. As of Dakota 5.2, the Surfpack implementation is the default in all contexts except Bayesian calibration.

More details on the gaussian_process dakota model can be found in[59].

Dakota’s GP deals with ill-conditioning in two ways. First, when it encounters a non-invertible correlation matrix it iteratively increases the size of a “nugget,” but in such cases the resulting approximation smooths rather than interpolates the data. Second, it has a point_selection option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm
to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpo-
late the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small
number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when
constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the
number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

This differs from the `point_selection` option of the Dakota GP which initially chooses a well-spaced
subset of points and finds the correlation parameters that are most likely for that one subset.

### point_selection

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **gaussian_process**
- **dakota**
- **point_selection**

Enable greedy selection of well-spaced build points

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **surrogate_models**

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

The Dakota Gaussian Process model has a `point_selection` option (default off) that uses a greedy algorithm
to select a well-spaced subset of points prior to the construction of the GP. In this case, the GP will only interpo-
late the selected subset. Typically, one should not need point selection in trust-region methods because a small
number of points are used to develop a surrogate within each trust region. Point selection is most beneficial when
constructing with a large number of points, typically more than order one hundred, though this depends on the
number of variables and spacing of the sample points.

### trend

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
Choose a trend function for a Gaussian process surrogate

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required(Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword constant</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>linear</td>
<td>Use a linear polynomial or trend function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>reduced_quadratic</td>
<td>Quadratic polynomials - main effects only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The only trend functions that are currently supported are polynomials.

The trend function is selected using the `trend` keyword, with options `constant`, `linear`, or `reduced_quadratic`. The `reduced_quadratic` trend function includes the main effects, but not mixed/interaction terms. The Surfpack GP (See surfpack) has the additional option of (a full) `quadratic`.

**constant**

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- dakota
- trend
- constant

Constant trend function
6.3. MODEL

**Specification**

* Alias: none  
  * Argument(s): none

**Description**

See parent page

- **linear**
  * Keywords Area
  * model
  * surrogate
  * global
  * gaussian_process
  * dakota
  * trend
  * linear

Use a linear polynomial or trend function

**Specification**

* Alias: none  
  * Argument(s): none

**Description**

See parent page

- **reduced_quadratic**
  * Keywords Area
  * model
  * surrogate
  * global
  * gaussian_process
  * dakota
  * trend
  * reduced_quadratic

Quadratic polynomials - main effects only
**Speciﬁcation**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

In 2 or more dimensions, this polynomial omits the interaction, or mixed, terms.

**surfpack**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **gaussian_process**
- **surfpack**

Use the Surfpack version of Gaussian Process surrogates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>trend</td>
<td>trend</td>
<td>Choose a trend function for a Gaussian process surrogate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>optimization_method</td>
<td>max_trials</td>
<td>Change the optimization method used to compute hyperparameters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Max number of likelihood function evaluations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>nugget</td>
<td>Specify a nugget to handle ill-conditioning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3. MODEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>find_nugget</th>
<th>Have Surfpack compute a nugget to handle ill-conditioning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>correlation_lengths</td>
<td>Specify the correlation lengths for the Gaussian process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td>Export surrogate to Surfpack model file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

This keyword specifies the use of the Gaussian process that is incorporated in our surface fitting library called Surfpack.

Several user options are available:

1. **Optimization methods:**
   
   Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) is used to find the optimal values of the hyper-parameters governing the trend and correlation functions. By default the global optimization method DIRECT is used for MLE, but other options for the optimization method are available. See optimization_method.
   
   The total number of evaluations of the likelihood function can be controlled using the max_trials keyword followed by a positive integer. Note that the likelihood function does not require running the "truth" model, and is relatively inexpensive to compute.

2. **Trend Function:**
   
   The GP models incorporate a parametric trend function whose purpose is to capture large-scale variations. See trend.

3. **Correlation Lengths:**
   
   Correlation lengths are usually optimized by Surfpack, however, the user can specify the lengths manually. See correlation_lengths.

4. **Ill-conditioning**
   
   One of the major problems in determining the governing values for a Gaussian process or Kriging model is the fact that the correlation matrix can easily become ill-conditioned when there are too many input points close together. Since the predictions from the Gaussian process model involve inverting the correlation matrix, ill-conditioning can lead to poor predictive capability and should be avoided.
   
   Note that a sufficiently bad sample design could require correlation lengths to be so short that any interpolatory GP model would become inept at extrapolation and interpolation.
   
   The surfpack model handles ill-conditioning internally by default, but behavior can be modified using

5. **Gradient Enhanced Kriging (GEK).**
   
   The use_derivatives keyword will cause the Surfpack GP to be constructed from a combination of function value and gradient information (if available).
   
   See notes in the Theory section.
Theory

Gradient Enhanced Kriging

Incorporating gradient information will only be beneficial if accurate and inexpensive derivative information is available, and the derivatives are not infinite or nearly so. Here “inexpensive” means that the cost of evaluating a function value plus gradient is comparable to the cost of evaluating only the function value, for example gradients computed by analytical, automatic differentiation, or continuous adjoint techniques. It is not cost effective to use derivatives computed by finite differences. In tests, GEK models built from finite difference derivatives were also significantly less accurate than those built from analytical derivatives. Note that GEK’s correlation matrix tends to have a significantly worse condition number than Kriging for the same sample design.

This issue was addressed by using a pivoted Cholesky factorization of Kriging’s correlation matrix (which is a small sub-matrix within GEK’s correlation matrix) to rank points by how much unique information they contain. This reordering is then applied to whole points (the function value at a point immediately followed by gradient information at the same point) in GEK’s correlation matrix. A standard non-pivoted Cholesky is then applied to the reordered GEK correlation matrix and a bisection search is used to find the last equation that meets the constraint on the (estimate of) condition number. The cost of performing pivoted Cholesky on Krige’s correlation matrix is usually negligible compared to the cost of the non-pivoted Cholesky factorization of GEK’s correlation matrix. In tests, it also resulted in more accurate GEK models than when pivoted Cholesky or whole-point-block pivoted Cholesky was performed on GEK’s correlation matrix.

trend

• Keywords Area
• model
• surrogate
• global
• gaussian_process
• surfpack
• trend

Choose a trend function for a Gaussian process surrogate

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>constant</td>
<td>Constant trend function</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

The only trend functions that are currently supported are polynomials.

The trend function is selected using the `trend` keyword, with options `constant`, `linear`, or `reduced_quadratic`. The `reduced_quadratic` trend function includes the main effects, but not mixed/interaction terms. The Surfpack GP (See `surfpack`) has the additional option of (a full) `quadratic`.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trend Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>linear</code></td>
<td>Use a linear polynomial or trend function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>reduced_quadratic</code></td>
<td>Quadratic polynomials - main effects only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>quadratic</code></td>
<td>Use a quadratic polynomial or trend function</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Constant

- Keywords: Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- `gaussian_process`
- surfpack
- `trend`
- `constant`

Constant trend function

#### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

#### Description

See parent page
linear
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack
- trend
- linear

Use a linear polynomial or trend function

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**

See parent page

reduced_quadratic
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack
- trend
- reduced_quadratic

Quadratic polynomials - main effects only

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**

In 2 or more dimensions, this polynomial omits the interaction, or mixed, terms.
quadratic

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack
- trend
- quadratic

Use a quadratic polynomial or trend function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page

**optimization_method**

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack
- optimization_method

Change the optimization method used to compute hyperparameters

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING
**Description**

Select the optimization method to compute hyperparameters of the Gaussian Process by specifying one of these arguments:

- `global` (default) - DIRECT method
- `local` - CONMIN method
- `sampling` - generates several random guesses and picks the candidate with greatest likelihood
- `none` - no optimization, pick the center of the feasible region

The `none` option, and the starting location of the `local` optimization, default to the center, in log(correlation length) scale, of the feasible region. Surfpack picks a small feasible region of correlation parameters. Note that we have found the `global` optimization method to be the most robust.

**max_trials**

- `Keywords Area`
- `model`
- `surrogate`
- `global`
- `gaussian_process`
- `surfpack`
- `max_trials`

Max number of likelihood function evaluations

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

**Description**

See parent page

**nugget**

- `Keywords Area`
- `model`
- `surrogate`
- `global`
- `gaussian_process`
Specify a nugget to handle ill-conditioning

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REAL

**Description**

By default, the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioning and does not use a nugget. If the user wishes to specify a nugget, there are two approaches.

- The user can specify the value of a nugget with **nugget**.
- Have Surfpack find the optimal value of the nugget. This is specified by **find_nugget**. There are two options for **find_nugget**.
  - **find_nugget** = 1: assume that the reciprocal condition number of the correlation matrix R, rcondR, is zero and calculate the nugget needed to make the worst case of R not ill-conditioned.
  - **find_nugget** = 2: calculate rcondR, which requires a Cholesky factorization. If rcondR indicates that R is not ill-conditioned, then kriging uses the Cholesky factorization. Otherwise, if rcondR says R is ill-conditioned, then kriging will calculate the nugget needed to make the worst case of R not ill-conditioned.

**find_nugget** = 1 and 2 are similar, the second option just takes more computation (the initial Cholesky factorization) for larger problems.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Keywords**

- Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack
- find_nugget

Have Surfpack compute a nugget to handle ill-conditioning
Description

By default, the Surfpack GP handles ill-conditioning and does not use a nugget. If the user wishes to specify a nugget, there are two approaches.

- The user can specify the value of a nugget with `nugget`.
- Have Surfpack find the optimal value of the nugget. This is specified by `find_nugget`. There are two options for `find_nugget`.
  - `find_nugget = 1`: assume that the reciprocal condition number of the correlation matrix R, `rcondR`, is zero and calculate the nugget needed to make the worst case of R not ill-conditioned.
  - `find_nugget = 2`: calculate `rcondR`, which requires a Cholesky factorization. If `rcondR` indicates that R is not ill-conditioned, then kriging uses the Cholesky factorization. Otherwise, if `rcondR` says R is ill-conditioned, then kriging will calculate the nugget needed to make the worst case of R not ill-conditioned.

`find_nugget = 1` and `2` are similar, the second option just takes more computation (the initial Cholesky factorization) for larger problems.

correlation_lengths

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **gaussian_process**
- **surfpack**
- **correlation_lengths**

Specify the correlation lengths for the Gaussian process

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Directly specify `correlation_lengths` as a list of N real numbers where N is the number of input dimensions.
6.3. MODEL

export_model_file

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- gaussian_process
- surfpack
- export_model_file

Export surrogate to Surfpack model file

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Serialize the global surrogate model to a text or binary Surfpack model file, for later loading and evaluation using the Surfpack interpreter or C interface. The filename must have an .sps extension for text output or a .bsps extension for binary output.

mars

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- mars

Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline (MARS)

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
CHAPTER 6.  KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Maximum number of MARS bases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>interpolation</td>
<td>MARS model interpolation type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td>Export surrogate to Surfpack model file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

This surface fitting method uses multivariate adaptive regression splines from the MARS3.5 package[26] developed at Stanford University.

The MARS reference material does not indicate the minimum number of data points that are needed to create a MARS surface model. However, in practice it has been found that at least \( n_{\text{quad}} \), and sometimes as many as 2 to 4 times \( n_{\text{quad}} \), data points are needed to keep the MARS software from terminating. Provided that sufficient data samples can be obtained, MARS surface models can be useful in SBO and OUU applications, as well as in the prediction of global trends throughout the parameter space.

Theory

The form of the MARS model is based on the following expression:

\[
\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} a_m B_m(x)
\]

where the \( a_m \) are the coefficients of the truncated power basis functions \( B_m \), and \( M \) is the number of basis functions. The MARS software partitions the parameter space into subregions, and then applies forward and backward regression methods to create a local surface model in each subregion. The result is that each subregion contains its own basis functions and coefficients, and the subregions are joined together to produce a smooth, \( C^2 \)-continuous surface model.

MARS is a nonparametric surface fitting method and can represent complex multimodal data trends. The regression component of MARS generates a surface model that is not guaranteed to pass through all of the response data values. Thus, like the quadratic polynomial model, it provides some smoothing of the data.

**max_bases**
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- mars
- max_bases

Maximum number of MARS bases
6.3. MODEL

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The maximum number of basis functions allowed in the MARS approximation model.

interpolation

• Keywords Area
• model
• surrogate
• global
• mars
• interpolation

MARS model interpolation type

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
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<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>cubic</td>
<td>Cubic interpolation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The MARS model interpolation type: linear or cubic.

linear

• Keywords Area
• model
• surrogate
• global
• mars
• interpolation
• linear

Linear interpolation
**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use linear interpolation in the MARS model.

- **cubic**
  - Keywords Area
  - model
  - surrogate
  - global
  - mars
  - interpolation
  - cubic

Cubic interpolation

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use cubic interpolation in the MARS model.

- **export_model_file**
  - Keywords Area
  - model
  - surrogate
  - global
  - mars
  - export_model_file

Export surrogate to Surfpack model file

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models
6.3. **MODEL**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

Serialize the global surrogate model to a text or binary Surfpack model file, for later loading and evaluation using the Surfpack interpreter or C interface. The filename must have an .sps extension for text output or a .bsps extension for binary output.

**moving_least_squares**

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- moving_least_squares

Moving Least Squares surrogate models

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>poly_order</td>
<td></td>
<td>Polynomial order for the MLS bases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>weight_function</td>
<td></td>
<td>Selects the weight function for the MLS model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>Export surrogate to Surfpack model file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Moving least squares is a further generalization of weighted least squares where the weighting is "moved" or recalculated for every new point where a prediction is desired[65].

**The implementation of moving least squares is still under development.** It tends to work well in trust region optimization methods where the surrogate model is constructed in a constrained region over a few points. The present implementation may not work as well globally.
Theory

Moving Least Squares can be considered a more specialized version of linear regression models. In linear regression, one usually attempts to minimize the sum of the squared residuals, where the residual is defined as the difference between the surrogate model and the true model at a fixed number of points.

In weighted least squares, the residual terms are weighted so the determination of the optimal coefficients governing the polynomial regression function, denoted by \( \hat{f}(x) \), are obtained by minimizing the weighted sum of squares at \( N \) data points:

\[
\sum_{n=1}^{N} w_n \left( \| \hat{f}(x_n) - f(x_n) \| \right)
\]

poly_order

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **moving_least_squares**
- **poly_order**

Polynomial order for the MLS bases

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The polynomial order for the moving least squares basis function (default = 2).

weight_function

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **moving_least_squares**
- **weight_function**

Selects the weight function for the MLS model
6.3. MODEL

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The weight function decays as a function of distance from the training data. Specify one of:

- 1 (default): exponential decay in weight function; once differentiable MLS model
- 2: twice differentiable MLS model
- 3: three times differentiable MLS model

export_model_file

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- moving_least_squares
- export_model_file

Export surrogate to Surfpack model file

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
Serialize the global surrogate model to a text or binary Surfpack model file, for later loading and evaluation using the Surfpack interpreter or C interface. The filename must have an .sps extension for text output or a .bsps extension for binary output.
neural_network

• Keywords Area
• model
• surrogate
• global
• neural_network

Artificial neural network model

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_nodes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maximum number of hidden layer nodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>range</td>
<td></td>
<td>Range for neural network random weights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>random_weight</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Inactive) Random weight control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>Export surrogate to Surfpack model file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Dakota’s artificial neural network surrogate is a stochastic layered perceptron network, with a single hidden layer. Weights for the input layer are chosen randomly, while those in the hidden layer are estimated from data using a variant of the Zimmerman direct training approach[93].

This typically yields lower training cost than traditional neural networks, yet good out-of-sample performance. This is helpful in surrogate-based optimization and optimization under uncertainty, where multiple surrogates may be repeatedly constructed during the optimization process, e.g., a surrogate per response function, and a new surrogate for each optimization iteration.

The neural network is a non parametric surface fitting method. Thus, along with Kriging (Gaussian Process) and MARS, it can be used to model data trends that have slope discontinuities as well as multiple maxima and minima. However, unlike Kriging, the neural network surrogate is not guaranteed to interpolate the data from which it was constructed.

This surrogate can be constructed from fewer than \( n_{\text{quad}} \) data points, however, it is a good rule of thumb to use at least \( n_{\text{quad}} \) data points when possible.
The form of the neural network model is 
\[ \hat{f}(x) \approx \tanh \left( A_1 \tanh (A_0^T x + \theta_0^T) + \theta_1 \right) \]

where \( x \) is the evaluation point in \( n \)-dimensional parameter space; the terms \( A_0, \theta_0 \) are the random input layer weight matrix and bias vector, respectively; and \( A_1, \theta_1 \) are a weight vector and bias scalar, respectively, estimated from training data. These coefficients are analogous to the polynomial coefficients obtained from regression to training data. The neural network uses a cross validation-based orthogonal matching pursuit solver to determine the optimal number of nodes and to solve for the weights and offsets.

**max_nodes**
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- neural_network
- max_nodes

Maximum number of hidden layer nodes

**Topics**
This keyword is related to the topics:
- surrogate_models

**Specification**
**Alias:** nodes
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**
Limits the maximum number of hidden layer nodes in the neural network model. The default is to use one less node than the number of available training data points yielding a fully-determined linear least squares problem. However, reducing the number of nodes can help reduce overfitting and more importantly, can drastically reduce surrogate construction time when building from a large data set. (Historically, Dakota limited the number of nodes to 100.)

The keyword max_nodes provides an upper bound. Dakota’s orthogonal matching pursuit algorithm may further reduce the effective number of nodes in the final model to achieve better generalization to unseen points.
range

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- neural_network
- range

Range for neural network random weights

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description
Controls the range of the input layer random weights in the neural network model. The default range is 2.0, resulting in weights in (-1, 1). These weights are applied after the training inputs have been scaled into [-0.8, 0.8].

random_weight

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- neural_network
- random_weight

Inactive) Random weight control

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models
6.3. MODEL

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
This option is not currently in use and is likely to be removed

export_model_file

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- neural_network
- export_model_file

Export surrogate to Surfpack model file

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
Serialize the global surrogate model to a text or binary Surfpack model file, for later loading and evaluation using the Surfpack interpreter or C interface. The filename must have an .sps extension for text output or a .bsps extension for binary output.

radial_basis

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- radial_basis

Radial basis function (RBF) model
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/- Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>bases</td>
<td>bases</td>
<td>Initial number of radial basis functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_pts</td>
<td>max_pts</td>
<td>Maximum number of RBF CVT points</td>
</tr>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>min_partition</td>
<td>min_partition</td>
<td>(Inactive) Minimum RBF partition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>max_subsets</td>
<td>max_subsets</td>
<td>Number of trial RBF subsets</td>
</tr>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td>Export surrogate to Surfpack model file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Radial basis functions $\phi$ are functions whose value typically depends on the distance from a center point, called the centroid, $c$.

The surrogate model approximation comprises a sum of $K$ weighted radial basis functions:

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} w_k \phi(||x - c_k||)$$

These basis functions take many forms, but Gaussian kernels or splines are most common. The Dakota implementation uses a Gaussian radial basis function. The weights are determined via a linear least squares solution approach. See[68] for more details.

- **bases**
  - Keywords Area
  - model
  - surrogate
  - global
  - radial_basis
  - bases

Initial number of radial basis functions
6.3. MODEL

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
Initial number of radial basis functions. The default value is the smaller of the number of training points and 100.

max_pts
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- radial_basis
- max_pts

Maximum number of RBF CVT points

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
Maximum number of CVT points to use in generating each RBF center. basis computing centroid of each. Defaults to 10 * (bases). Reducing this will reduce model build time.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

min_partition

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- radial_basis
- min_partition

(Inactive) Minimum RBF partition

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
This option currently has no effect and will likely be removed.

max_subsets

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- radial_basis
- max_subsets

Number of trial RBF subsets

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models
6.3. MODEL

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

Number of passes to take to identify the best subset of basis functions to use. Defaults to the smaller of $3 \times (\text{bases})$ and 100.

export_model_file

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- radial_basis
- export_model_file

Export surrogate to Surfpack model file

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate_models

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Serialize the global surrogate model to a text or binary Surfpack model file, for later loading and evaluation using the Surfpack interpreter or C interface. The filename must have an .sps extension for text output or a .bsps extension for binary output.

polynomial

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- polynomial

Polynomial surrogate model
**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>quadratic</td>
<td>Use a quadratic polynomial or trend function</td>
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<td></td>
<td>cubic</td>
<td>Use a cubic polynomial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>export_model_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>Export surrogate to Surfpack model file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Linear, quadratic, and cubic polynomial surrogate models are available in Dakota. The utility of the simple polynomial models stems from two sources:

- over a small portion of the parameter space, a low-order polynomial model is often an accurate approximation to the true data trends
- the least-squares procedure provides a surface fit that smooths out noise in the data.

Local surrogate-based optimization methods (surrogate_based_local) are often successful when using polynomial models, particularly quadratic models. However, a polynomial surface fit may not be the best choice for modeling data trends globally over the entire parameter space, unless it is known a priori that the true data trends are close to linear, quadratic, or cubic. See[64] for more information on polynomial models.

**Theory**

The form of the linear polynomial model is

\[ \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \approx c_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i \]

the form of the quadratic polynomial model is:

\[ \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \approx c_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j \geq i}^{n} c_{ij} x_i x_j \]

and the form of the cubic polynomial model is:

\[ \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \approx c_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j \geq i}^{n} c_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j \geq i}^{n} \sum_{k \geq j}^{n} c_{ijk} x_i x_j x_k \]
In all of the polynomial models, \( \hat{f}(x) \) is the response of the polynomial model; the \( x_i, x_j, x_k \) terms are the components of the \( n \)-dimensional design parameter values; the \( c_0, c_i, c_{ij}, c_{ijk} \) terms are the polynomial coefficients, and \( n \) is the number of design parameters. The number of coefficients, \( n_c \), depends on the order of polynomial model and the number of design parameters. For the linear polynomial:

\[
n_{c_{linear}} = n + 1
\]

for the quadratic polynomial:

\[
n_{c_{quad}} = \frac{(n + 1)(n + 2)}{2}
\]

and for the cubic polynomial:

\[
n_{c_{cubic}} = \frac{(n^3 + 6n^2 + 11n + 6)}{6}
\]

There must be at least \( n_c \) data samples in order to form a fully determined linear system and solve for the polynomial coefficients. In Dakota, a least-squares approach involving a singular value decomposition numerical method is applied to solve the linear system.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page

**quadratic**

- Keywords Area  
- model  
- surrogate  
- global  
- polynomial  
- linear
• polynomial
• quadratic

Use a quadratic polynomial or trend function

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page

---

**cubic**

• Keywords Area
• model
• surrogate
• global
• polynomial
• cubic

Use a cubic polynomial

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page

---

**export_model_file**

• Keywords Area
• model
• surrogate
• global
• polynomial
• export_model_file

Export surrogate to Surfpack model file
6.3. **MODEL**

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate models

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

Serialize the global surrogate model to a text or binary Surfpack model file, for later loading and evaluation using the Surfpack interpreter or C interface. The filename must have an .sps extension for text output or a .bsps extension for binary output.

**total_points**

- **Keywords Area**
- model
- surrogate
- global
- **total_points**

Specified number of training points

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

See parent page.

**minimum_points**

- **Keywords Area**
- model
- surrogate
- global
- **minimum_points**

Construct surrogate with minimum number of points
Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

The minimum is d+1, for d input dimensions, except for polynomials. See parent page.

recommended_points

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- recommended_points

Construct surrogate with recommended number of points

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

This is the default option. It requires 5+d build points for d input dimensions, except for polynomial models. See parent page.

dace_method_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- dace_method_pointer

Specify a method to gather training data

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer
6.3. **MODEL**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The number of training points and the sources are specified on `global`, as well as the number of new training points required.

New training points are gathered by running the “truth” model using the method specified by `dace_method_pointer`. The DACE method will only be invoked if it has new samples to perform, and if new samples are required and no DACE iterator has been provided, an error will result.

The `dace_method_pointer` points to design of experiments method block used to generate truth model data.

Permissible methods include: Monte Carlo (random) sampling, Latin hypercube sampling, orthogonal array sampling, central composite design sampling, and Box-Behnken sampling.

Note that the number of samples specified in the method block may be overwritten, if the requested number of samples is less than `minimum_points`.

### reuse_points

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **reuse_points**

Surrogate model training data reuse control

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **surrogate_models**

**Specification**

**Alias:** reuse_samples

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
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<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
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<td>all</td>
<td>Option for <code>reuse_points</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>region</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Dakota’s global surrogate methods rely on training data, which can either come from evaluation of a “truth” model, which is generated by the method specified with dace_method_pointer, from a file of existing training data, identified by import_points_file, or both.

The reuse_points keyword controls the amount of training data used in building a surrogate model, either initially, or during iterative rebuild, as in surrogate-based optimization. If import_points_file is specified, reuse_points controls how the file contents are used. If used during iterative rebuild, it controls what data from previous surrogate builds is reused in building the current model.

- all (default for file import) - use all points in the file or available from previous builds
- region - use only the points falling in the current trust region (see surrogate_based_local)
- none (default when no import) - ignore the contents of the file or previous build points, and gather new training data using the specified DACE method

all

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- reuse_points
- all

Option for reuse_points

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

This is described on the parent page.

region

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
6.3. *MODEL*

- `reuse_points`
- `region`

Option for `reuse_points`

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This is described on the parent page.

- `none`
  - `Keywords Area`
  - `model`
  - `surrogate`
  - `global`
  - `reuse_points`
  - `none`

Option for `reuse_points`

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This is described on the parent page.

**`import_points_file`**

- `Keywords Area`
- `model`
- `surrogate`
- `global`
- `import_points_file`

File containing variable values and corresponding responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** `samples_file`  
**Argument(s):** `STRING`
**Description**

The `import_points_file` allows the user to specify a file that contains a list of variable values and the model responses computed at those values. These can be used by a number of methods in place of model evaluations. When used to construct surrogate models or emulators these are often called build points or training data.

**Default Behavior**

Be default, methods do not import points from a file.

**Usage Tips**

Although Dakota parses input files without regard to whitespace, the `import_points_file` must be in one of two formats:

- annotated (default)
- freeform

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
```

**annotated**

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- `import_points_file`
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>active_only</td>
<td>Import only active variables from tabular data file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3. MODEL

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
    annotated

freeform

• Keywords Area
  • model
  • surrogate
  • global
  • import_points_file
  • freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
    freeform

active_only

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- import_points_file
- active_only

Import only active variables from tabular data file
```

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats
6.3. MODEL

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.

**export_points_file**

- **Keywords Area**
  - model
  - surrogate
  - global
  - export_points_file

Output file for evaluations of a surrogate model

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword annotated</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

File of points (input variable values and predicted approximate outputs from the surrogate) evaluated on the surrogate model. Note that the export points contain test point values and the emulator predictions at these points.

- **annotated**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - model
  - surrogate
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- global
- export_points_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.
- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```python
method
   list_parameter_study
   import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
   annotated

   freemform
```

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
6.3. MODEL

- export_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The \(\text{num\_rows} \times \text{num\_cols}\) total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
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- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```
method list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

use_derivatives
```

Use derivative data to construct surrogate models
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The use_derivative flag specifies that any available derivative information should be used in global approximation builds, for those global surrogate types that support it (currently, polynomial regression and the Surfpack Gaussian process).

However, its use with Surfpack Gaussian process is not recommended.

correction

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- correction

Correction approaches for surrogate models

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
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<th>Required/-Optional</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>zeroth_order</td>
<td>Specify that truth values must be matched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>first_order</td>
<td>Specify that truth values and gradients must be matched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>second_order</td>
<td>Specify that truth values, gradients and Hessians must be matched.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

Some of the surrogate model types support the use of correction factors that improve the local accuracy of the surrogate models.

The correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data, either matching truth values in the case of zeroth order matching, matching truth values and gradients in the case of first order matching, or matching truth values, gradients, and Hessians in the case of second order matching. For additive and multiplicative corrections, the correction is local in that the truth data is matched at a single point, typically the center of the approximation region. The additive correction adds a scalar offset (zeroth order), a linear function (first order), or a quadratic function (second order) to the approximation to match the truth data at the point, and the multiplicative correction multiplies the approximation by a scalar (zeroth order), a linear function (first order), or a quadratic function (second order) to match the truth data at the point. The additive first order case is due to [[58] "Lewis and Nash, 2000"] and the multiplicative first order case is commonly known as beta correction [[40] "Haftka, 1991"]'). For the combined correction, the use of both additive and multiplicative corrections allows the satisfaction of an additional matching condition, typically the truth function values at the previous correction point (e.g., the center of the previous trust region). The combined correction is then a multipoint correction, as opposed to the local additive and multiplicative corrections. Each of these correction capabilities is described in detail in [[23] "Eldred et al., 2004"].

The correction factors force the surrogate models to match the true function values and possibly true function derivatives at the center point of each trust region. Currently, Dakota supports either zeroth-, first-, or second-order accurate correction methods, each of which can be applied using either an additive, multiplicative, or combined correction function. For each of these correction approaches, the correction is applied to the surrogate model and the corrected model is then interfaced with whatever algorithm is being employed. The default behavior is that no correction factor is applied.

The simplest correction approaches are those that enforce consistency in function values and possibly true function derivatives at the center point of each trust region. Currently, Dakota supports either zeroth-, first-, or second-order accurate correction methods, each of which can be applied using either an additive, multiplicative, or combined correction function. For each of these correction approaches, the correction is applied to the surrogate model and the corrected model is then interfaced with whatever algorithm is being employed. The default behavior is that no correction factor is applied.

The simplest correction approaches are those that enforce consistency in function values and possibly true function derivatives at the center point of each trust region. Currently, Dakota supports either zeroth-, first-, or second-order accurate correction methods, each of which can be applied using either an additive, multiplicative, or combined correction function. For each of these correction approaches, the correction is applied to the surrogate model and the corrected model is then interfaced with whatever algorithm is being employed. The default behavior is that no correction factor is applied.

---

<table>
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<th>additive</th>
<th>multiplicative</th>
<th>combined</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Additive correction factor for local surrogate accuracy</td>
<td>Multiplicative correction factor for local surrogate accuracy</td>
<td>Multipoint correction for a hierarchical surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
Correcting surrogate models with additive corrections involves
\[ \hat{f}_{hi}(x) = f_{lo}(x) + \alpha(x) \]  
(6.1)

where multifidelity notation has been adopted for clarity. For multiplicative approaches, corrections take the form
\[ \hat{f}_{hi}(x) = f_{lo}(x)\beta(x) \]  
(6.2)

where, for local corrections, \( \alpha(x) \) and \( \beta(x) \) are first or second-order Taylor series approximations to the exact correction functions:
\[ \alpha(x) = A(x_c) + \nabla A(x_c)^T(x - x_c) + \frac{1}{2}(x - x_c)^T\nabla^2 A(x_c)(x - x_c) \]  
(6.3)
\[ \beta(x) = B(x_c) + \nabla B(x_c)^T(x - x_c) + \frac{1}{2}(x - x_c)^T\nabla^2 B(x_c)(x - x_c) \]  
(6.4)

where the exact correction functions are
\[ A(x) = f_{hi}(x) - f_{lo}(x) \]  
(6.5)
\[ B(x) = \frac{f_{hi}(x)}{f_{lo}(x)} \]  
(6.6)

Refer to[23] for additional details on the derivations.

A combination of additive and multiplicative corrections can provide for additional flexibility in minimizing the impact of the correction away from the trust region center. In other words, both additive and multiplicative corrections can satisfy local consistency, but through the combination, global accuracy can be addressed as well. This involves a convex combination of the additive and multiplicative corrections:
\[ \hat{f}_{hi}(x) = \gamma \hat{f}_{hi}(x) + (1 - \gamma) \hat{f}_{hi\beta}(x) \]

where \( \gamma \) is calculated to satisfy an additional matching condition, such as matching values at the previous design iterate.

It should be noted that in both first order correction methods, the function \( \hat{f}(x) \) matches the function value and gradients of \( f_t(x) \) at \( x = x_c \). This property is necessary in proving that the first order-corrected SBO algorithms are provably convergent to a local minimum of \( f_t(x) \). However, the first order correction methods are significantly more expensive than the zeroth order correction methods, since the first order methods require computing both \( \nabla f_t(x_c) \) and \( \nabla f_{lo}(x_c) \). When the SBO strategy is used with either of the zeroth order correction methods, or with no correction method, convergence is not guaranteed to a local minimum of \( f_t(x) \). That is, the SBO strategy becomes a heuristic optimization algorithm. From a mathematical point of view this is undesirable, but as a practical matter, the heuristic variants of SBO are often effective in finding local minima.

**Usage guidelines**

- Both the additive zeroth order and multiplicative zeroth order correction methods are “free” since they use values of \( f_t(x_c) \) that are normally computed by the SBO strategy.
- The use of either the additive first order method or the multiplicative first order method does not necessarily improve the rate of convergence of the SBO algorithm.
- When using the first order correction methods, the gradient-related response keywords must be modified to allow either analytic or numerical gradients to be computed. This provides the gradient data needed to compute the correction function.
- For many computationally expensive engineering optimization problems, gradients often are too expensive to obtain or are discontinuous (or may not exist at all). In such cases the heuristic SBO algorithm has been an effective approach at identifying optimal designs[35].

Refer to[23] for additional details on the derivations.
zeroth_order

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- correction
- zeroth_order

Specify that truth values must be matched.

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data. The keyword zeroth_order matching ensures that truth values are matched.

first_order

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- correction
- first_order

Specify that truth values and gradients must be matched.

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

This correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data. The keyword first_order matching ensures that truth values and gradients are matched.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

second_order

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- correction
- second_order

Specify that truth values, gradients and Hessians must be matched.

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data. The keyword second_order matching ensures that truth values, gradients and Hessians are matched.

additive

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- correction
- additive

Additive correction factor for local surrogate accuracy

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

Use an additive correction factor to improve the local accuracy of a surrogate.
6.3. *MODEL*

**Multiplicative**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **correction**
- **multiplicative**

Multiplicative correction factor for local surrogate accuracy.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Use a multiplicative correction factor to improve the local accuracy of a surrogate.

**Combined**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **correction**
- **combined**

Multipoint correction for a hierarchical surrogate
t

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

For the combined correction, the use of both additive and multiplicative corrections allows the satisfaction of an additional matching condition, typically the truth function values at the previous correction point (e.g., the center of the previous trust region). The combined correction is then a multipoint correction, as opposed to the local additive and multiplicative corrections.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

metrics
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- metrics

Compute surrogate quality metrics

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- surrogate_models

Specification

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group         | Description    | Description   |
| Optional   |              | cross_validation | Perform k-fold cross validation |
| Optional   |              | press           | Leave-one-out cross validation |

Description
A variety of diagnostic metrics are available to assess the goodness of fit of a global surrogate to its training data. The default diagnostics are:
- root_mean_squared
- mean_abs
- r_squared

Additional available diagnostics include
- sum_squared
- mean_squared
- sum_abs
- max_abs

The keywords press and cross_validation further specify leave-one-out or k-fold cross validation, respectively, for all of the active metrics from above.
Theory
Most of these diagnostics refer to some operation on the residuals (the difference between the surrogate model and the truth model at the data points upon which the surrogate is built).

For example, \texttt{sum\_squared} refers to the sum of the squared residuals, and \texttt{mean\_abs} refers to the mean of the absolute value of the residuals. \texttt{rsquared} refers to the R-squared value typically used in regression analysis (the proportion of the variability in the response that can be accounted for by the surrogate model). Care should be taken when interpreting metrics, for example, errors may be near zero for interpolatory models or \texttt{rsquared} may not be applicable for non-polynomial models.

cross\_validation

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- metrics
- cross\_validation

Perform k-fold cross validation

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- surrogate\_models

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

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<th>Required/Optional</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Group 1</td>
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<td>Number of cross validation folds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>percent</td>
<td>Percent data per cross validation fold</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
General k-fold cross validation may be performed by specifying \texttt{cross\_validation}. The cross-validation statistics will be calculated for all metrics.

Cross validation may further specify:

- \texttt{folds}, the number of folds into which to divide the build data (between 2 and number of data points) or
• **percent**, the fraction of data (between 0 and 0.5) to use in each fold.

These will be adjusted as needed based on the number of available training points. The default number of folds $k = 10$, or 0.1

**folds**

• **Keywords Area**
• **model**
• **surrogate**
• **global**
• **metrics**
• **cross_validation**
• **folds**

Number of cross validation folds

**Specification**

Alias: none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

Number of folds (partitions) of the training data to use in cross validation (default 10).

• **percent**

• **Keywords Area**
• **model**
• **surrogate**
• **global**
• **metrics**
• **cross_validation**
• **percent**

Percent data per cross validation fold

**Specification**

Alias: none  
**Argument(s):** REAL
6.3. **MODEL**

**Description**
Percent of the training data to use in each cross validation fold (default 0.1).

**press**
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- metrics
- press

Leave-one-out cross validation

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**
Leave-one-out (PRESS) cross validation may be performed by specifying `press`. The cross-validation statistics will be calculated for all metrics.

**challenge_points_file**
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- challenge_points_file

Datafile of points to assess surrogate quality

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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</table>

CASL-U-2015-0089-000
### Description

Specifies a datafile containing variable and response (truth) values in either annotated or free-form tabular format. The surrogate is evaluated at the points in the file, and the surrogate (approximate) responses are compared against the truth results from the file. All metrics specified with `metrics` will be computed for the challenge data.

- **annotated**
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **model**
  - **surrogate**
  - **global**
  - **challenge_points_file**
  - **annotated**

Denotes annotated file format

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

### Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding `num_rows x num_cols` whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

**Default Behavior**

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the `annotated` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**
Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
    list_parameter_study
    import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
    annotated

freeform

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- global
- challenge_points_file
- freeform

Denotes freeform file format
```

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the `freeform` keyword must be used in conjunction with the `import_points_file` keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though `freeform` remains an option.
For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

active_only

```

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **global**
- **challenge_points_file**

Import only active variables from tabular data file

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **file_formats**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

By default, files for tabular data imports are expected to contain columns for all variables, active and inactive. The keyword `active_only` indicates that the file to import contains only the active variables.

This option should only be used in contexts where the inactive variables have no influence, for example, building a surrogate over active variables, with the state variables held at nominal. It should not be used in more complex nested contexts, where the values of inactive variables are relevant to the function evaluations used to build the surrogate.
6.3. MODEL

multipoint

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- multipoint

Construct a surrogate from multiple existing training points

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Required</td>
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<td>tana</td>
<td>Local multi-point model via two-point nonlinear approximation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>actual_model_pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to specify a &quot;truth&quot; model, from which to construct a surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Multipoint approximations use data from previous design points to improve the accuracy of local approximations. The data often comes from the current and previous iterates of a minimization algorithm.

Currently, only the Two-point Adaptive Nonlinearity Approximation (TANA-3) method of [92] "Xu and Grandhi, 1998" is supported with the tana keyword.

The truth model to be used to generate the value/gradient data used in the approximation is identified through the required actual_model_pointer specification.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- local
- global
- hierarchical
TANA stands for Two Point Adaptive Nonlinearity Approximation. The TANA-3 method [92] "Xu and Grandhi, 1998" is a multipoint approximation method based on the two point exponential approximation [24]. This approach involves a Taylor series approximation in intermediate variables where the powers used for the intermediate variables are selected to match information at the current and previous expansion points.

The form of the TANA model is:

$$
\hat{f}(x) \approx f(x_2) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_2) \frac{x_{i,2}^{1-p_i}}{p_i} (x_{i,2}^{p_i} - x_{i,1}^{p_i}) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon(x) \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i,2}^{p_i} - x_{i,1}^{p_i})^2
$$

where \( n \) is the number of variables and:

$$
p_i = 1 + \ln \frac{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_1)}{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x_2)} \ln \frac{x_{i,1}^{p_i}}{x_{i,2}^{p_i}}
$$

\( \epsilon(x) = \frac{H}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i^{p_i} - x_{i,1}^{p_i})^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i^{p_i} - x_{i,2}^{p_i})^2} \) and \( x_2 \) and \( x_1 \) are the current and previous expansion points. Prior to the availability of two expansion points, a first-order Taylor series is used.

**actual_model_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- multipoint
- actual_model_pointer

Pointer to specify a "truth" model, from which to construct a surrogate.
6.3. MODEL

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
This must point to a model block, identified by id_model. That model will be run to generate training data, from which a surrogate model will be constructed.

See block_pointer for details about pointers.

local

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- local

Build a locally accurate surrogate from data at a single point

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>taylor_series</td>
<td>Construct a Taylor Series expansion around a point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>actual_model_pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to specify a &quot;truth&quot; model, from which to construct a surrogate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Local approximations use value, gradient, and possibly Hessian data from a single point to form a series expansion for approximating data in the vicinity of this point.

The currently available local approximation is the taylor_series selection.

The truth model to be used to generate the value/gradient/Hessian data used in the series expansion is identified through the required actual_model_pointer specification. The use of a model pointer (as opposed to an interface pointer) allows additional flexibility in defining the approximation. In particular, the derivative
specification for the truth model may differ from the derivative specification for the approximation, and the truth model results being approximated may involve a model recursion (e.g., the values/gradients from a nested model).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:
- global
- hierarchical
- multipoint

**taylor_series**
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- local
- taylor_series

Construct a Taylor Series expansion around a point

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

The Taylor series model is purely a local approximation method. That is, it provides local trends in the vicinity of a single point in parameter space.

The order of the Taylor series may be either first-order or second-order, which is automatically determined from the gradient and Hessian specifications in the responses specification (see responses for info on how to specify gradients and Hessians) for the truth model.

**Theory**

The first-order Taylor series expansion is:

\[
\hat{f}(x) \approx f(x_0) + \nabla_x f(x_0)^T (x - x_0)
\]  \hspace{1cm} (6.7)

and the second-order expansion is:

\[
\hat{f}(x) \approx f(x_0) + \nabla_x f(x_0)^T (x - x_0) + \frac{1}{2} (x - x_0)^T \nabla^2_x f(x_0) (x - x_0)
\]  \hspace{1cm} (6.8)

where \(x_0\) is the expansion point in \(n\)-dimensional parameter space and \(f(x_0)\), \(\nabla_x f(x_0)\), and \(\nabla^2_x f(x_0)\) are the computed response value, gradient, and Hessian at the expansion point, respectively.
As dictated by the responses specification used in building the local surrogate, the gradient may be analytic or numerical and the Hessian may be analytic, numerical, or based on quasi-Newton secant updates.

In general, the Taylor series model is accurate only in the region of parameter space that is close to \( x_0 \). While the accuracy is limited, the first-order Taylor series model reproduces the correct value and gradient at the point \( x_0 \), and the second-order Taylor series model reproduces the correct value, gradient, and Hessian. This consistency is useful in provably-convergent surrogate-based optimization. The other surface fitting methods do not use gradient information directly in their models, and these methods rely on an external correction procedure in order to satisfy the consistency requirements of provably-convergent SBO.

**actual_model_pointer**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **local**
- **actual_model_pointer**

  Pointer to specify a ”truth” model, from which to construct a surrogate

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

This must point to a model block, identified by id_model. That model will be run to generate training data, from which a surrogate model will be constructed.

  See **block_pointer** for details about pointers.

**hierarchical**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **hierarchical**

  Hierarchical approximations use corrected results from a low fidelity model as an approximation to the results of a high fidelity ”truth” model.
Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
### Description

Hierarchical approximations use corrected results from a low fidelity model as an approximation to the results of a high fidelity "truth" model. These approximations are also known as model hierarchy, multifidelity, variable fidelity, and variable complexity approximations. The required low_fidelity_model_pointer specification points to the low fidelity model specification. This model is used to generate low fidelity responses which are then corrected and returned to an iterator. The required high_fidelity_model_pointer specification points to the specification for the high fidelity truth model. This model is used only for verifying low fidelity results and updating low fidelity corrections. The correction specification specifies which correction technique will be applied to the low fidelity results in order to match the high fidelity results at one or more points. In the hierarchical case (as compared to the global case), the correction specification is required, since the omission of a correction technique would effectively eliminate the purpose of the high fidelity model. If it is desired to use a low fidelity model without corrections, then a hierarchical approximation is not needed and a single model should be used. Refer to global for additional information on available correction approaches.

### Theory

**Multifidelity Surrogates**: Multifidelity modeling involves the use of a low-fidelity physics-based model as a surrogate for the original high-fidelity model. The low-fidelity model typically involves a coarser mesh, looser convergence tolerances, reduced element order, or omitted physics. It is a separate model in its own right and does not require data from the high-fidelity model for construction. Rather, the primary need for high-fidelity evaluations is for defining correction functions that are applied to the low-fidelity results.

**Multifidelity Surrogate Models**

A second type of surrogate is the \{model hierarchy\} type (also called multifidelity, variable fidelity, variable complexity, etc.). In this case, a model that is still physics-based but is of lower fidelity (e.g., coarser discretization, reduced element order, looser convergence tolerances, omitted physics) is used as the surrogate in place of the high-fidelity model. For example, an inviscid, incompressible Euler CFD model on a coarse discretization could be used as a low-fidelity surrogate for a high-fidelity Navier-Stokes model on a fine discretization.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- global
- local
- multipoint
low_fidelity_model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- hierarchical
- low_fidelity_model_pointer

Pointer to low fidelity model

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
low_fidelity_model_pointer points to the model (using its id_model label) to use for generating low fidelity responses, which are corrected and returned to an iterator as explained on the parent page.

high_fidelity_model_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- hierarchical
- high_fidelity_model_pointer

Pointer to high fidelity model

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING
**6.3. MODEL**

Description

`high_fidelity_model_pointer` points to the model (using its `id_model` label) to use for verifying low fidelity results and updating low fidelity corrections, as explained on the parent page.

**correction**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **surrogate**
- **hierarchical**
- **correction**

Correction approaches for surrogate models

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td><strong>Required(Choose One)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group 1</strong></td>
<td>zeroth_order</td>
<td>Specify that truth values must be matched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>first_order</td>
<td>Specify that truth values and gradients must be matched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>second_order</td>
<td>Specify that truth values, gradients and Hessians must be matched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required(Choose One)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group 2</strong></td>
<td>additive</td>
<td>Additive correction factor for local surrogate accuracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>multiplicative</td>
<td>Multiplicative correction factor for local surrogate accuracy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

Some of the surrogate model types support the use of correction factors that improve the local accuracy of the surrogate models.

The correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data, either matching truth values in the case of zeroth_order matching, matching truth values and gradients in the case of first_order matching, or matching truth values, gradients, and Hessians in the case of second_order matching. For additive and multiplicative corrections, the correction is local in that the truth data is matched at a single point, typically the center of the approximation region. The additive correction adds a scalar offset (zeroth_order), a linear function (first_order), or a quadratic function (second_order) to the approximation to match the truth data at the point, and the multiplicative correction multiplies the approximation by a scalar (zeroth_order), a linear function (first_order), or a quadratic function (second_order) to match the truth data at the point. The additive first_order case is due to [58] "Lewis and Nash, 2000" and the multiplicative first_order case is commonly known as beta correction [40] "Haftka, 1991". For the combined correction, the use of both additive and multiplicative corrections allows the satisfaction of an additional matching condition, typically the truth function values at the previous correction point (e.g., the center of the previous trust region). The combined correction is then a multipoint correction, as opposed to the local additive and multiplicative corrections. Each of these correction capabilities is described in detail in [23] "Eldred et al., 2004".

The correction factors force the surrogate models to match the true function values and possibly true function derivatives at the center point of each trust region. Currently, Dakota supports either zeroth-, first-, or second-order accurate correction methods, each of which can be applied using either an additive, multiplicative, or combined correction function. For each of these correction approaches, the correction is applied to the surrogate model and the corrected model is then interfaced with whatever algorithm is being employed. The default behavior is that no correction factor is applied.

The simplest correction approaches are those that enforce consistency in function values between the surrogate and original models at a single point in parameter space through use of a simple scalar offset or scaling applied to the surrogate model. First-order corrections such as the first-order multiplicative correction (also known as beta correction[14]) and the first-order additive correction [[58] "Lewis and Nash, 2000"] also enforce consistency in the gradients and provide a much more substantial correction capability that is sufficient for ensuring provable convergence in SBO algorithms. SBO convergence rates can be further accelerated through the use of second-order corrections which also enforce consistency in the Hessians[23], where the second-order information may involve analytic, finite-difference, or quasi-Newton Hessians.

Correcting surrogate models with additive corrections involves

\[ \hat{f}_{hi,a}(\mathbf{x}) = f_{lo}(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha(\mathbf{x}) \]  

(6.9)

where multifidelity notation has been adopted for clarity. For multiplicative approaches, corrections take the form

\[ \hat{f}_{hi,a}(\mathbf{x}) = f_{lo}(\mathbf{x})\beta(\mathbf{x}) \]  

(6.10)

where, for local corrections, \( \alpha(\mathbf{x}) \) and \( \beta(\mathbf{x}) \) are first or second-order Taylor series approximations to the exact
correction functions:

\[
\alpha(x) = A(x_c) + \nabla A(x_c)^T (x - x_c) + \frac{1}{2} (x - x_c)^T \nabla^2 A(x_c) (x - x_c)
\] (6.11)

\[
\beta(x) = B(x_c) + \nabla B(x_c)^T (x - x_c) + \frac{1}{2} (x - x_c)^T \nabla^2 B(x_c) (x - x_c)
\] (6.12)

where the exact correction functions are

\[
A(x) = f_{hi}(x) - f_{lo}(x)
\] (6.13)

\[
B(x) = \frac{f_{hi}(x)}{f_{lo}(x)}
\] (6.14)

Refer to[23] for additional details on the derivations.

A combination of additive and multiplicative corrections can provide for additional flexibility in minimizing the impact of the correction away from the trust region center. In other words, both additive and multiplicative corrections can satisfy local consistency, but through the combination, global accuracy can be addressed as well. This involves a convex combination of the additive and multiplicative corrections:

\[
f_{hi}(x) = \gamma \hat{f}_{hi}(x) + (1 - \gamma) \hat{f}_{hi}(x)
\]

where \(\gamma\) is calculated to satisfy an additional matching condition, such as matching values at the previous design iterate.

It should be noted that in both first order correction methods, the function \(\hat{f}(x)\) matches the function value and gradients of \(f_t(x)\) at \(x = x_c\). This property is necessary in proving that the first order-corrected SBO algorithms are provably convergent to a local minimum of \(f_t(x)\). However, the first order correction methods are significantly more expensive than the zeroth order correction methods, since the first order methods require computing both \(\nabla f_t(x_c)\) and \(\nabla f_s(x_c)\). When the SBO strategy is used with either of the zeroth order correction methods, or with no correction method, convergence is not guaranteed to a local minimum of \(f_t(x)\). That is, the SBO strategy becomes a heuristic optimization algorithm. From a mathematical point of view this is undesirable, but as a practical matter, the heuristic variants of SBO are often effective in finding local minima.

Usage guidelines

- Both the additive zeroth order and multiplicative zeroth order correction methods are "free" since they use values of \(f_t(x_c)\) that are normally computed by the SBO strategy.

- The use of either the additive first order method or the multiplicative first order method does not necessarily improve the rate of convergence of the SBO algorithm.

- When using the first order correction methods, the gradient-related response keywords must be modified to allow either analytic or numerical gradients to be computed. This provides the gradient data needed to compute the correction function.

- For many computationally expensive engineering optimization problems, gradients often are too expensive to obtain or are discontinuous (or may not exist at all). In such cases the heuristic SBO algorithm has been an effective approach at identifying optimal designs[35].

zeroth_order

- Keywords Area
- model
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- surrogate
- hierarchical
- correction
- zeroth_order

Specify that truth values must be matched.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data. The keyword `zeroth_order` matching ensures that truth values are matched.

- **first_order**

  - **Keywords Area**
  - model
  - surrogate
  - hierarchical
  - correction
  - first_order

Specify that truth values and gradients must be matched.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data. The keyword `first_order` matching ensures that truth values and gradients are matched.
6.3. **MODEL**

second_order

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- hierarchical
- correction
- second_order

Specify that truth values, gradients and Hessians must be matched.

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The correction specification specifies that the approximation will be corrected to match truth data. The keyword second_order matching ensures that truth values, gradients and Hessians are matched.

additive

- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- hierarchical
- correction
- additive

Additive correction factor for local surrogate accuracy

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

Use an additive correction factor to improve the local accuracy of a surrogate.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

multiplicative
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- hierarchical
- correction
- multiplicative

Multiplicative correction factor for local surrogate accuracy.

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Use a multiplicative correction factor to improve the local accuracy of a surrogate.

combined
- Keywords Area
- model
- surrogate
- hierarchical
- correction
- combined

Multipoint correction for a hierarchical surrogate

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
For the combined correction, the use of both additive and multiplicative corrections allows the satisfaction of an additional matching condition, typically the truth function values at the previous correction point (e.g., the center of the previous trust region). The combined correction is then a multipoint correction, as opposed to the local additive and multiplicative corrections.
6.3. **MODEL**

6.3.7 **nested**

- **Keywords Area**
- **model**
- **nested**

A model whose responses are computed through the use of a sub-iterator

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>optional_interface_pointer</td>
<td>Pointer to interface that provides non-nested responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>sub_method_pointer</td>
<td>The sub_method_pointer specifies the method block for the sub-iterator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Instead of appealing directly to a primary interface, a nested model maps variables to responses by executing a secondary iterator, or a "sub-iterator". In other words, a function evaluation of the primary study consists of a solution of an entire secondary study - potentially many secondary function evaluations.

The sub-iterator in turn operates on a sub-model. The sub-iterator responses may be combined with non-nested contributions from an optional interface specification.

A **sub_method_pointer** must be provided in order to specify the method block describing the sub-iterator. The remainder of the model is specified under that keyword.

A **optional_interface_pointer** points to the interface specification and optional_interface_responses_pointer points to a responses specification describing the data to be returned by this interface). This interface is used to provide non-nested data, which is then combined with data from the nested iterator using the primary_response_mapping and secondary_response_mapping inputs (see mapping discussion below).

**Examples**

An example of variable and response mappings is provided below:

```plaintext
primary_variable_mapping = '' '' 'X' 'Y'
secondary_variable_mapping = '' '' 'mean' 'mean'
primary_response_mapping = 1. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0.
secondary_response_mapping = 0. 0. 0. 1. 3. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 1. 3. 0.
```
The variable mappings correspond to 4 top-level variables, the first two of which employ the default mappings from active top-level variables to sub-model variables of the same type (option 3 above) and the latter two of which are inserted into the mean distribution parameters of sub-model variables $X$ and $Y$ (option 1 above). The response mappings define a 3 by 9 matrix corresponding to 9 inner loop response attributes and 3 outer loop response functions (one primary response function and 2 secondary functions, such as one objective and two constraints). Each row of the response mapping is a vector which is multiplied (i.e., with a dot-product) against the 9 sub-iterator values to determine the outer loop function. Consider a UQ example with 3 response functions, each providing a mean, a standard deviation, and one level mapping (if no level mappings are specified, the responses would only have a mean and standard deviation). The primary response mapping can be seen to extract the first value from the inner loop, which would correspond to the mean of the first response function. This mapped sub-iterator response becomes a single objective function, least squares term, or generic response function at the outer level, as dictated by the top-level response specification. The secondary response mapping maps the fourth sub-iterator response function plus 3 times the fifth sub-iterator response function (mean plus 3 standard deviations) into one top-level nonlinear constraint and the seventh sub-iterator response function plus 3 times the eighth sub-iterator response function (mean plus 3 standard deviations) into another top-level nonlinear constraint, where these top-level nonlinear constraints may be inequality or equality, as dictated by the top-level response specification. Note that a common case is for each sub-iterator response to be mapped to a unique outer loop response (for example, in the nested UQ case where one wants to determine an interval on each inner loop statistic). In these simple cases, the response mapping would define an identity matrix.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- single
- surrogate

**optional_interface_pointer**

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- optional_interface_pointer

Pointer to interface that provides non-nested responses

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING
Description

optional_interface_pointer is used to specify an optional interface (using that interface block’s id_interface label) to provide non-nested responses, which will be combined with responses from the nested sub-iterator. The primary_response_mapping and secondary_response_mapping keywords control how responses are combined.

optional_interface_responses_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- optional_interface_pointer
- optional_interface_responses_pointer

Pointer to responses block that defines non-nested responses

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

optional_interface_responses_pointer points to the responses block (specifically, its id_responses label) that defines the non-nested response to return to the nested model. The primary_response_mapping and secondary_response_mapping keywords control how these non-nested responses are combined with responses from the nested sub-iterator. If optional_interface_responses_pointer is not provided, the top-level responses specification is reused.
sub_method_pointer

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer

The sub_method_pointer specifies the method block for the sub-iterator

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_pointer

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

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<thead>
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<td>Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
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<p>| Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary mappning of top-level variables to sub-model variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3. MODEL

| Optional | secondary_variable_mapping | Secondary mapping of top-level variables to sub-model variables 
| Optional | primary_response_mapping | Primary mapping of sub-model responses to top-level responses 
| Optional | secondary_response_mapping | Secondary mapping of sub-model responses to top-level responses |

**Description**

The `sub_method_pointer` specifies the method block for the sub-iterator.

See `block_pointer` for details about pointers.

Nested models may employ mappings for both the variable inputs to the sub-model and the response outputs from the sub-model. In the former case, the `primary_variable_mapping` and `secondary_variable_mapping` specifications are used to map from the active top-level variables into the sub-model variables, and in the latter case, the `primary_response_mapping` and `secondary_response_mapping` specifications are used to compute the sub-model response contributions to the top-level responses.

For the variable mappings, the primary and secondary specifications provide lists of strings which are used to target specific sub-model variables and their sub-parameters, respectively. The primary strings are matched to continuous or discrete variable labels such as `'cdv_1'` (either user-supplied or default labels), and the secondary strings are matched to either real or integer random variable distribution parameters such as `'mean'` or `'num_trials'` (the form of the uncertain distribution parameter keyword that is appropriate for a single variable instance) or continuous or discrete design/state variable sub-parameters such as `'lower_bound'` or `'upper_bound'` (again, keyword form appropriate for a single variable instance). No coercion of types is supported, so real-valued top-level variables should map to either real-valued sub-model variables or real-valued sub-parameters and integer-valued top-level variables should map to either integer-valued sub-model variables or integer-valued sub-parameters. As long as these real versus integer constraints are satisfied, mappings are free to cross variable types (design, aleatory uncertain, epistemic uncertain, state) and domain types (continuous, discrete). Both `primary_variable_mapping` and `secondary_variable_mapping` specifications are optional, which is designed to support the following three possibilities:

1. If both primary and secondary variable mappings are specified, then an active top-level variable value will be inserted into the identified sub-parameter (the secondary mapping) for the identified sub-model variable (the primary mapping).

2. If a primary mapping is specified but a secondary mapping is not, then an active top-level variable value will be inserted into the identified sub-model variable value (the primary mapping).

3. If a primary mapping is not specified (corresponding secondary mappings, if specified, are ignored), then an active top-level variable value will be inserted into a corresponding sub-model variable, based on matching of variable types (e.g., top-level and sub-model variable specifications both allocate a set of `'continuous_design'` variables which are active at the top level). Multiple sub-model variable types may be updated in this manner, provided that they are all active in the top-level variables. Since there is a direct variable correspondence for these default insertions, sub-model bounds and labels are also updated.
from the top-level bounds and labels in order to eliminate the need for redundant input file specifications. Thus, it is typical for the sub-model variables specification to only contain the minimal required information, such as the number of variables, for these insertion targets. The sub-model must allocate enough space for each of the types that will accept default insertions, and the leading set of matching sub-model variables are updated (i.e., the sub-model may allocate more than needed and the trailing set will be unmodified).

These different variable mapping possibilities may be used in any combination by employing empty strings ("") for particular omitted mappings (the number of strings in user-supplied primary and secondary variable mapping specifications must equal the total number of active top-level variables, including both continuous and discrete types). The ordering of the active variables is the same as shown in dakota.input.summary on Input Spec Summary and as presented in variables.

If inactive variables are present at the outer level, then the default type 3 mapping is used for these variables; that is, outer loop inactive variables are inserted into inner loop variables (active or inactive) based on matching of variable types, top-level bounds and labels are also propagated, the inner loop must allocate sufficient space to receive the outer loop values, and the leading subset within this inner loop allocation is updated. This capability is important for allowing nesting beyond two levels, since an active variable at the outer-most loop may become inactive at the next lower level, but still needs to be further propagated down to lower levels in the recursion.

For the response mappings, the primary and secondary specifications provide real-valued multipliers to be applied to sub-iterator response results so that the responses from the inner loop can be mapped into a new set of responses at the outer loop. For example, if the nested model is being employed within a mixed aleatory-epistemic uncertainty quantification, then aleatory statistics from the inner loop (such as moments of the response) are mapped to the outer level, where minima and maxima of these aleatory statistics are computed as functions of the epistemic parameters. The response mapping defines a matrix which scales the values from the inner loop and determines their position in the outer loop response vector. Each row of the mapping corresponds to one outer loop response, where each column of the mapping corresponds to a value from the inner loop. Depending on the number of responses and the particular attributes calculated on the inner loop, there will be a vector of inner loop response values that need to be accounted for in the mapping. This vector of inner loop response results is defined as follows for different sub-iterator types:

- optimization: the final objective function(s) and nonlinear constraints
- nonlinear least squares: the final least squares terms and nonlinear constraints
- aleatory uncertainty quantification (UQ): for each response function, a mean statistic, a standard deviation statistic, and all probability/reliability/generalized reliability/response level results for any user-specified response_levels, probability_levels, reliability_levels, and/or gen_reliability_levels, in that order.
- epistemic and mixed aleatory/epistemic UQ using interval estimation methods: lower and upper interval bounds for each response function.
- epistemic and mixed aleatory/epistemic UQ using evidence methods: for each response function, lower and upper interval bounds (belief and plausibility) for all probability/reliability/generalized reliability/response level results computed from any user-specified response_levels, probability_levels, reliability_levels, and/or gen_reliability_levels, in that order.
- parameter studies and design of experiments: for optimization and least squares response data sets, the best solution found (lowest constraint violation if infeasible, lowest composite objective function if feasible). For generic response data sets, a best solution metric is not defined, so the sub-iterator response vector is empty in this case.
The primary values map sub-iterator response results into top-level objective functions, least squares terms, or generic response functions, depending on the declared top-level response set. The secondary values map sub-iterator response results into top-level nonlinear inequality and equality constraints.

Nested models utilize a sub-iterator and a sub-model to perform a complete iterative study as part of every evaluation of the model. This sub-iteration accepts variables from the outer level, performs the sub-level analysis, and computes a set of sub-level responses which are passed back up to the outer level. Mappings are employed for both the variable inputs to the sub-model and the response outputs from the sub-model.

In the variable mapping case, primary and secondary variable mapping specifications are used to map from the top-level variables into the sub-model variables. These mappings support three possibilities in any combination: (1) insertion of an active top-level variable value into an identified sub-model distribution parameter for an identified active sub-model variable, (2) insertion of an active top-level variable value into an identified active sub-model variable value, and (3) addition of an active top-level variable value as an inactive sub-model variable, augmenting the active sub-model variables.

In the response mapping case, primary and secondary response mapping specifications are used to map from the sub-model responses back to the top-level responses. These specifications provide real-valued multipliers that are applied to the sub-iterator response results to define the outer level response set. These nested data results may be combined with non-nested data through use of the "optional interface" component within nested models.

The nested model constructs admit a wide variety of multi-iterator, multi-model solution approaches. For example, optimization within optimization (for hierarchical multidisciplinary optimization), uncertainty quantification within uncertainty quantification (for second-order probability), uncertainty quantification within optimization (for optimization under uncertainty), and optimization within uncertainty quantification (for uncertainty of optima) are all supported, with and without surrogate model indirection. Several examples of nested model usage are provided in the Users Manual, most notably mixed epistemic-aleatory UQ, optimization under uncertainty (OUU), and surrogate-based UQ.

**iterator_servers**

- **Keyword Area**
- **model**
- **nested**
- **sub_method_pointer**
- **iterator_servers**

Specify the number of iterator servers when Dakota is run in parallel

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional iterator_servers specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.

iterator_scheduling
- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- iterator_scheduling

Specify the scheduling of concurrent iterators when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
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<td>master</td>
<td>Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peer</td>
<td>Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling</td>
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</table>

Description
An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional iterator_scheduling specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of iterator servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid,
multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] “Adams et al., 2010”] for additional information.

master

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- iterator_scheduling
- master

Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel iterator scheduling

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a dedicated master partition. In a dedicated master partition, one processor (the "master") dynamically schedules work on the iterator servers. This reduces the number of processors available to create servers by 1.

peer

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- iterator_scheduling
- peer

Specify a peer partition for parallel iterator scheduling
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a peer partition. In a peer partition, all processors are available to be assigned to iterator servers. Note that unlike the case of evaluation_scheduling, it is not possible to specify static or dynamic.

processors_per_iterator

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- processors_per_iterator

Specify the number of processors per iterator server when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
An important feature for component-based iterators is that execution of sub-iterator runs may be performed concurrently. The optional processors_per_iterator specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of processors in each iterator server. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired server size at the iterator parallelism level. Currently, hybrid, multi_start, and pareto_set component-based iterators support concurrency in their sub-iterators. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.
primary_variable_mapping

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- primary_variable_mapping

Primary mapping of top-level variables to sub-model variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The primary_variable_mapping, secondary_variable_mapping, primary_response_mapping, and secondary_response_mapping keywords control how top-level variables and responses are mapped to variables and responses in the sub-model. Their usage is explained on the parent keyword (sub_method_pointer) page.

secondary_variable_mapping

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- secondary_variable_mapping

Secondary mapping of top-level variables to sub-model variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The primary_variable_mapping, secondary_variable_mapping, primary_response_mapping, and secondary_response_mapping keywords control how top-level variables and responses are mapped to variables and responses in the sub-model. Their usage is explained on the parent keyword (sub_method_pointer) page.
primary_response_mapping

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- primary_response_mapping

Primary mapping of sub-model responses to top-level responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The `primary_variable_mapping, secondary_variable_mapping, primary_response_mapping, and secondary_response_mapping` keywords control how top-level variables and responses are mapped to variables and responses in the sub-model. Their usage is explained on the parent keyword (`sub_method_pointer`) page.

secondary_response_mapping

- Keywords Area
- model
- nested
- sub_method_pointer
- secondary_response_mapping

Secondary mapping of sub-model responses to top-level responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The `primary_variable_mapping, secondary_variable_mapping, primary_response_mapping, and secondary_response_mapping` keywords control how top-level variables and responses are mapped to variables and responses in the sub-model. Their usage is explained on the parent keyword (`sub_method_pointer`) page.
### 6.4 variables

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**

Specifies the parameter set to be iterated by a particular method.

#### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block**

#### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>id_variables</td>
<td>Name the variables block; helpful when there are multiple</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>active</td>
<td>Set the active variables view a method will see</td>
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<td>mixed</td>
<td>Maintain continuous/discrete variable distinction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>relaxed</td>
<td>Allow treatment of discrete variables as continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>continuous_design</td>
<td>Continuous design variables; each defined by a real interval</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Optional Discrete Design
- **discrete_design_range**: Discrete design variables; each defined by an integer interval

### Optional Discrete Design Set
- **discrete_design_set**: Set-valued discrete design variables

### Optional Normal Uncertain
- **normal_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - normal (Gaussian)

### Optional Lognormal Uncertain
- **lognormal_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - lognormal

### Optional Uniform Uncertain
- **uniform_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - uniform

### Optional Loguniform Uncertain
- **loguniform_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - loguniform

### Optional Triangular Uncertain
- **triangular_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - triangular

### Optional Exponential Uncertain
- **exponential_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - exponential

### Optional Beta Uncertain
- **beta_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - beta

### Optional Gamma Uncertain
- **gamma_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - gamma

### Optional Gumbel Uncertain
- **gumbel_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - gumbel

### Optional Frechet Uncertain
- **frechet_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - Frechet

### Optional Weibull Uncertain
- **weibull_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - Weibull

### Optional Histogram Bin Uncertain
- **histogram_bin_uncertain**: Aleatory uncertain variable - continuous histogram
### 6.4. VARIABLES

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<tr>
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<th>poisson_uncertain</th>
<th>Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - Poisson</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - binomial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>negative_binomial_uncertain</td>
<td>Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - negative binomial</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
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<td>Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - geometric</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
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<td>Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - hypergeometric</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
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<td>Aleatory uncertain variable - discrete histogram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>uncertain_correlation_matrix</td>
<td>Correlation among aleatory uncertain variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>continuous_interval_uncertain</td>
<td>Epistemic uncertain variable - values from one or more continuous intervals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>discrete_interval_uncertain</td>
<td>Epistemic uncertain variable - values from one or more discrete intervals</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>discrete_uncertain_set</td>
<td>Set-valued discrete uncertain variables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>Continuous state variables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>discrete_state_range</td>
<td>Discrete state variables; each defined by an integer interval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Optional discrete state set

| Set-valued discrete state variables |

Description

The variables specification in a Dakota input file specifies the parameter set to be iterated by a particular method.

In the case of

- An optimization study:
  - These variables are adjusted in order to locate an optimal design.

- Parameter studies/sensitivity analysis/design of experiments:
  - These parameters are perturbed to explore the parameter space.

- Uncertainty analysis:
  - The variables are associated with distribution/interval characterizations which are used to compute corresponding distribution/interval characterizations for response functions.

To accommodate these different studies, Dakota supports different:

- Variable types
  - design
  - aleatory uncertain
  - epistemic uncertain
  - state

- Variable domains
  - continuous
  - discrete
    * discrete range
    * discrete integer set
    * discrete string set
    * discrete real set

Use the variables_and_responses page to browse the available variables by type and domain.

Variable Types

- Design Variables
  - Design variables are those variables which are modified for the purposes of computing an optimal design.
  - The most common type of design variables encountered in engineering applications are of the continuous type. These variables may assume any real value within their bounds.
  - All but a handful of the optimization algorithms in Dakota support continuous design variables exclusively.
6.4. VARIABLES

- **Aleatory Uncertain Variables**
  - Aleatory uncertainty is also known as inherent variability, irreducible uncertainty, or randomness.
  - Aleatory uncertainty is predominantly characterized using probability theory. This is the only option implemented in Dakota.

- **Epistemic Uncertain Variables**
  - Epistemic uncertainty is uncertainty due to lack of knowledge.
  - In Dakota, epistemic uncertainty is characterized by interval analysis or the Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.
  - Note that epistemic uncertainty can also be modeled with probability density functions (as done with aleatory uncertainty). Dakota does not support this capability.

- **State Variables**
  - State variables consist of "other" variables which are to be mapped through the simulation interface, in that they are not to be used for design and they are not modeled as being uncertain.
  - State variables provide a convenient mechanism for managing additional model parameterizations such as mesh density, simulation convergence tolerances, and time step controls.
  - Only parameter studies and design of experiments methods will iterate on state variables.
  - The initial_value is used as the only value for the state variable for all other methods, unless active state is invoked.
  - See more details on the state_variables page.

**Variable Domains**
Continuous variables are defined by bounds. Discrete variables can be defined in one of three ways, which are discussed on the page discrete_variables.

**Ordering of Variables**
The ordering of variables is important, and a consistent ordering is employed throughout the Dakota software. The ordering is shown in dakota.input.summary and can be summarized as:

1. design
   - (a) continuous
   - (b) discrete integer
   - (c) discrete string
   - (d) discrete real

2. aleatory uncertain
   - (a) continuous
   - (b) discrete integer
   - (c) discrete string
   - (d) discrete real

3. epistemic uncertain
   - (a) continuous
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

(b) discrete integer
(c) discrete string
(d) discrete real

4. state
(a) continuous
(b) discrete integer
(c) discrete string
(d) discrete real

Ordering of variable types below this granularity (e.g., from normal to histogram bin within aleatory uncertain - continuous) is defined somewhat arbitrarily, but is enforced consistently throughout the code.

Active Variables
The reason variable types exist is that methods have the capability to treat variable types differently. All methods have default behavior that determines which variable types are "active" and will be assigned values by the method. For example, optimization methods will only vary the design variables - by default.

The default behavior should be described on each method page, or on topics pages that relate to classes of methods. In addition, the default behavior can be modified using the active keyword.

Examples
Several examples follow. In the first example, two continuous design variables are specified:

```
variables,
    continuous_design = 2
    initial_point 0.9 1.1
    upper_bounds 5.8 2.9
    lower_bounds 0.5 -2.9
    descriptors 'radius' 'location'
```

In the next example, defaults are employed. In this case, initial_point will default to a vector of 0. values, upper_bounds will default to vector values of DBL_MAX (the maximum number representable in double precision for a particular platform, as defined in the platform’s float.h C header file), lower_bounds will default to a vector of -DBL_MAX values, and descriptors will default to a vector of ‘cdv_i’ strings, where i ranges from one to two:

```
variables,
    continuous_design = 2
```

In the following example, the syntax for a normal-lognormal distribution is shown. One normal and one lognormal uncertain variable are completely specified by their means and standard deviations. In addition, the dependence structure between the two variables is specified using the uncertain_correlation_matrix.

```
variables,
    normal_uncertain = 1
    means = 1.0
    std_deviations = 1.0
    descriptors = 'TF1n'
    lognormal_uncertain = 1
    means = 2.0
    std_deviations = 0.5
    descriptors = 'TF2ln'
    uncertain_correlation_matrix = 1.0 0.2
           0.2 1.0
```
An example of the syntax for a state variables specification follows:

```plaintext
variables,
    continuous_state = 1
    initial_state 4.0
    lower_bounds 0.0
    upper_bounds 8.0
    descriptors 'CS1'
    discrete_state_range = 1
    initial_state 104
    lower_bounds 100
    upper_bounds 110
    descriptors 'DS1'

And in a more advanced example, a variables specification containing a set identifier, continuous and discrete
design variables, normal and uniform uncertain variables, and continuous and discrete state variables is shown:

```plaintext
variables,
    id_variables = 'V1'
    continuous_design = 2
    initial_point 0.9 1.1
    upper_bounds 5.8 2.9
    lower_bounds 0.5 -2.9
    descriptors 'radius' 'location'
    discrete_design_range = 1
    initial_point 2
    upper_bounds 1
    lower_bounds 3
    descriptors 'material'
    normal_uncertain = 2
    means = 248.89, 593.33
    std_deviations = 12.4, 29.7
    descriptors = 'TF1n' 'TF2n'
    uniform_uncertain = 2
    lower_bounds = 199.3, 474.63
    upper_bounds = 298.5, 712.
    descriptors = 'TF1u' 'TF2u'
    continuous_state = 2
    initial_state = 1.e-4 1.e-6
    descriptors = 'EPSIT1' 'EPSIT2'
    discrete_state_set_int = 1
    initial_state = 100
    set_values = 100 212 375
    descriptors = 'load_case'
```

### 6.4.1 id_variables

- **Keywords** Area
- **variables**
- **id_variables**

Name the variables block; helpful when there are multiple

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_pointer**
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The optional set identifier specification uses the keyword `id_variables` to input a unique string for use in identifying a particular variables set. A model can then identify the use of this variables set by specifying the same string in its `variables_pointer` specification.

If the `id_variables` specification is omitted, a particular variables set will be used by a model only if that model omits specifying a `variables_pointer` and if the variables set was the last set parsed (or is the only set parsed). In common practice, if only one variables set exists, then `id_variables` can be safely omitted from the variables specification and `variables_pointer` can be omitted from the model specification(s), since there is no potential for ambiguity in this case.

Examples

For example, a model whose specification contains `variables_pointer = 'V1'` will use a variables specification containing the set identifier `id_variables = 'V1'`.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `variables_pointer`

6.4.2 active

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active

Set the active variables view a method will see

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Option for the active keyword</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.4. VARIABLES

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>uncertain</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>aleatory</strong></td>
<td>Option for the active keyword</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>epistemic</strong></td>
<td>Option for the active keyword</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>state</strong></td>
<td>Option for the active keyword</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are certain situations where the user may want to explicitly control the subset of variables that is considered active for a certain Dakota method. This is done by specifying the keyword active in the variables specification block, followed by one of the following: all, design, uncertain, aleatory, epistemic, or state.

Specifying one of these subsets of variables will allow the Dakota method to operate on the specified variable types and override the default active subset.

If the user does not specify any explicit override of the active view of the variables, Dakota first considers the response function specification.

- If the user specifies objective functions or calibration terms in the response specification block, then we can infer that the active variables should be the design variables (since design variables are used within optimization and least squares methods).

- If the user instead specifies the generic response type of response_functions, then Dakota cannot infer the active variable subset from the response specification and will instead infer it from the method selection.

  1. If the method is a parameter study, or any of the methods available under dace, psuade, or fsu methods, the active view is set to all variables.

  2. For uncertainty quantification methods, if the method is sampling, then the view is set to aleatory if only aleatory variables are present, epistemic if only epistemic variables are present, or uncertain (covering both aleatory and epistemic) if both are present.

  3. If the uncertainty method involves interval estimation or evidence calculations, the view is set to epistemic.

  4. For other uncertainty quantification methods not mentioned in the previous sentences (e.g., reliability methods or stochastic expansion methods), the default view is set to aleatory.

  5. Finally, for verification studies using the Richardson extrapolation method, the active view is set to state.

  6. Note that in surrogate-based optimization, where the surrogate is built on points defined by the method defined by the dace_method_pointer, the sampling used to generate the points is performed only over the design variables as a default unless otherwise specified (e.g. state variables will not be sampled for surrogate construction).

As alluded to in the previous section, the iterative method selected for use in Dakota determines what subset, or view, of the variables data is active in the iteration. The general case of having a mixture of various different types of variables is supported within all of the Dakota methods even though certain methods will only modify certain types of variables (e.g., optimizers and least squares methods only modify design variables, and uncertainty quantification methods typically only utilize uncertain variables). This implies that variables which are not under the direct control of a particular iterator will be mapped through the interface in an unmodified state. This allows for a variety of parameterizations within the model in addition to those which are being used by a particular
iterator, which can provide the convenience of consolidating the control over various modeling parameters in a single file (the Dakota input file). An important related point is that the variable set that is active with a particular iterator is the same variable set for which derivatives are typically computed.

**Examples**

For example, the default behavior for a nondeterministic sampling method is to sample the uncertain variables. However, if the user specified `active all` in the variables specification block, the sampling would be performed over all variables (e.g. design and state variables in addition to the uncertain variables). This may be desired in situations such as surrogate-based optimization under uncertainty, where a surrogate may be constructed to span both design and uncertain variables. This is an example where we expand the active subset beyond the default, but in other situations, we may wish to restrict from the default. An example of this would be performing design of experiments in the presence of multiple variable types (for which all types are active by default), but only wanting to sample over the design variables for purposes of constructing a surrogate model for optimization.

**Theory**

The optional status of the different variable type specifications allows the user to specify only those variables which are present (rather than explicitly specifying that the number of a particular type of variables is zero). However, at least one type of variables that are active for the iterator in use must have nonzero size or an input error message will result.

all

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active
- all

Option for the `active` keyword

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See the `active` keyword

design

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active
- design

Option for the `active` keyword
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See the active keyword

uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active
- uncertain

Option for the active keyword

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See the active keyword

aleatory

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active
- aleatory

Option for the active keyword

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

See the active keyword
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

epistemic

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active
- epistemic

Option for the active keyword

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See the active keyword

state

- Keywords Area
- variables
- active
- state

Option for the active keyword

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See the active keyword

**6.4.3 mixed**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- mixed

Maintain continuous/discrete variable distinction
6.4. VARIABLES

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The variables domain specifies how the discrete variables are treated. If the user specifies mixed in the variable specification block, the continuous and discrete variables are treated separately. If the user specifies relaxed in the variable specification block, the discrete variables are relaxed and treated as continuous variables. This may be useful in optimization problems involving both continuous and discrete variables when a user would like to use an optimization method that is designed for continuous variable optimization. All Dakota methods have a default value of mixed for the domain type except for the branch-and-bound method which has a default domain type of relaxed. Note that the branch-and-bound method is under development at this time. Finally, note that the domain selection applies to all variable types: design, aleatory uncertain, epistemic uncertain, and state.

With respect to domain type, if the user does not specify an explicit override of mixed or relaxed, Dakota infers the domain type from the method. As mentioned above, all methods currently use a mixed domain as a default, except the branch-and-bound method which is under development.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- relaxed

6.4.4 relaxed

- Keywords Area
- variables
- relaxed

Allow treatment of discrete variables as continuous

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The variables domain specifies how the discrete variables are treated. If the user specifies mixed in the variable specification block, the continuous and discrete variables are treated separately. If the user specifies relaxed in the variable specification block, the discrete variables are relaxed and treated as continuous variables. This may be useful in optimization problems involving both continuous and discrete variables when a user would like to use an optimization method that is designed for continuous variable optimization. All Dakota methods have a default value of mixed for the domain type except for the branch-and-bound method which has a default domain type of relaxed. Note that the branch-and-bound method is under development at this time. Finally, note that the domain selection applies to all variable types: design, aleatory uncertain, epistemic uncertain, and state.

With respect to domain type, if the user does not specify an explicit override of mixed or relaxed, Dakota infers the domain type from the method. As mentioned above, all methods currently use a mixed domain as a default, except the branch-and-bound method which is under development.
See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- mixed

6.4.5 continuous_design

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design

Continuous design variables; each defined by a real interval

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- design_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td></td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>lower_bounds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify minimum values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>upper_bounds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify maximum values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>scale_types</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify scaling for the variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>scales</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify scaling for the variable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Labels for the variables.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Continuous variables that are changed during the search for the optimal design.
6.4. VARIABLES

**initial_point**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**
Alias: cdv_initial_point
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**
The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**lower_bounds**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

**Specification**
Alias: cdv_lower_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**
Specify minimum values

**upper_bounds**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: cdv_upper_bounds

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specify maximum values

scale_types

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design
- scale_types

Specify scaling for the variables

Specification

Alias: cdv_scale_types

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

For continuous variables, the scale-types specification includes strings specifying the scaling type for each component of the continuous design variables vector in methods that support scaling, when scaling is enabled.

Each entry in scale_types may be selected from ‘none’, ‘value’, ‘auto’, or ‘log’, to select no, characteristic value, automatic, or logarithmic scaling, respectively. If a single string is specified it will apply to all components of the continuous design variables vector. Each entry in scales may be a user-specified nonzero real characteristic value to be used in scaling each variable component. These values are ignored for scaling type ‘none’, required for ‘value’, and optional for ‘auto’ and ‘log’. If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the continuous design variables vector.

Examples

Two continuous design variables, one scaled by a value, the other log scaled,

```plaintext
continuous_design = 2
initial_point   -1.2  1.0
lower_bounds   -2.0  0.001
upper_bounds   2.0   2.0
descriptors    'x1'  'x2'
scale_types    'value' 'log'
scales         4.0   0.1
```
6.4. VARIABLES

scales

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design
- scales

Specify scaling for the variable.

**Specification**

**Alias:** cdv_scales
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

For continuous variables, the `scale_types` specification includes strings specifying the scaling type for each component of the continuous design variables vector in methods that support scaling, when scaling is enabled. Each entry in `scale_types` may be selected from 'none', 'value', 'auto', or 'log', to select no, characteristic value, automatic, or logarithmic scaling, respectively. If a single string is specified it will apply to all components of the continuous design variables vector. Each entry in `scales` may be a user-specified nonzero real characteristic value to be used in scaling each variable component. These values are ignored for scaling type 'none', required for 'value', and optional for 'auto' and 'log'. If a single real value is specified it will apply to all components of the continuous design variables vector.

**Examples**

Two continuous design variables, both scaled by the characteristic value 4.0

```plaintext
continuous_design = 2
initial_point -1.2 1.0
lower_bounds -200 0.001
upper_bounds 200 2.0
descriptors 'x1' 'x2'
scale_types = 'value' 'none'
scales = 10.0
```

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_design
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** cdv_descriptors
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.6 discrete_design_range

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_range

Discrete design variables; each defined by an integer interval

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- discrete_variables
- design_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          | Description    | Description   |
| Optional   | initial_point  | initial_point  | Initial values|
| Optional   | lower_bounds   | lower_bounds   | Specify minimum values |
| Optional   | upper_bounds   | upper_bounds   | Specify maximum values |
| Optional   | descriptors     | descriptors    | Labels for the variables |

Description
These variables take on a range of integer values from the specified lower bound to the specified upper bound. The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the discrete_variables page.

initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_range
- initial_point

Initial values
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

Alias: ddv_initial_point

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**lower_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_range
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

**Specification**

Alias: ddv_lower_bounds

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Specify minimum values

**upper_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_range
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

**Specification**

Alias: ddv_upper_bounds

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Specify maximum values
descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_range
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

Alias: ddv_descriptors

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

### 6.4.7 discrete_design_set

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set

Set-valued discrete design variables

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- design_variables

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

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<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>Integer-valued discrete design variables</td>
</tr>
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</table>
6.4. VARIABLES

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<th>Optional</th>
<th>string</th>
<th>String-valued discrete design set variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>real</td>
<td>Real-valued discrete design variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Discrete design variables whose values come from a set of admissible elements. Each variable specified must be of type integer, string, or real.

**integer**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- integer

Integer-valued discrete design variables

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:
- discrete_variables
- design_variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>elements_per_-variable</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

A design variable whose values come from a specified set of admissible integers. The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the `discrete_variables` page.

### Examples

Four integer variables whose values will be selected from the following sets during the search for an optimal design. $y_1 \in \{0, 1\}$, $y_2 \in \{0, 1\}$, $y_3 \in \{0, 5\}$ and $y_4 \in \{10, 15, 20, 23\}$.

```plaintext
discrete_design_set
integer 4
descriptors 'y1' 'y2' 'y3' 'y4'
elements_per_variable 2 2 2 4
elements 0 1 0 1 0 5 10 15 20 23
```

### Specification

**Alias:** `num_set_values`

**Argument(s):** `INTEGERLIST`
6.4. VARIABLES

Description

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

elements

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- integer
- elements

The permissible values for each discrete variable

Specification

Alias: set_values

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

categorical

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- integer
- categorical

Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

A list of strings of length equal to the number of set (integer, string, or real) variables indicating whether they are strictly categorical, meaning may only take on values from the provided set, or relaxable, meaning may take on any integer or real value between the lowest and highest specified element. Valid categorical strings include 'yes', 'no', 'true', and 'false', or any abbreviation in [yYnNtTfF][.]*
Examples

Discrete design set variable, 'rotor blades', can take on only integer values, 2, 4, or 7 by default. Since categorical is specified to be false, the integrality can be relaxed and 'rotor blades' can take on any value between 2 and 7, e.g., 3, 6, or 5.5.

```
discrete_design_set
  integer 1
  elements 2 4 7
  descriptor 'rotor_blades'
  categorical 'no'
```

initial_point

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **discrete_design_set**
- **integer**
- **initial_point**

Initial values

Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

Description

The initial point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **discrete_design_set**
- **integer**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
6.4. VARIABLES

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

string

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- string

String-valued discrete design set variables

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- design_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>elements_per_-variable</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Discrete design variables whose values come from a specified set of admissible strings. The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the discrete_variables page. Each string element value must be quoted and may contain alphanumeric, dash, underscore, and colon. White space, quote characters, and backslash/metacharacters are not permitted.
Examples
Two string variables whose values will be selected from the set of provided elements. The first variable, 'linear solver', takes on values from a set of three possible elements and the second variable, 'mesh_file', from a set of two possible elements.

discrete_design_set
  string 2
  descriptors 'linear_solver' 'mesh_file'
  elements_per_variable 3 2
  elements 'cg' 'gmres' 'direct'
  'mesh64.exo' 'mesh128.exo'

elements_per_variable
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • discrete_design_set
  • string
  • elements_per_variable

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

Specification
Alias: num_set_values
  Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

elements
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • discrete_design_set
  • string
  • elements

The permissible values for each discrete variable

Specification
Alias: set_values
  Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.4. VARIABLES

Description
Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

initial_point

• Keywords Area
• variables
• discrete_design_set
• string
• initial_point

Initial values

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

• Keywords Area
• variables
• discrete_design_set
• string
• descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
real
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- real

Real-valued discrete design variables

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- discrete_variables
- design_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>elements</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>categorical</td>
<td></td>
<td>Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable</td>
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<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
A design variable whose values come from a specified set of admissible reals. The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the discrete_variables page.
6.4. VARIABLES

Examples

Two continuous, restricted variables whose values will be selected from the following sets during the search for an optimal design. \( y_1 \in \{0.25, 1.25, 2.25, 3.25, 4.25\} \), \( y_2 \in \{0, 5\} \)

```
 discrete_design_set
   real 2
   descriptors  'y1'  'y2'
   elements_per_variable  5  2
   elements  0.25 1.25 2.25 3.25 4.25 0 5
```

**elements_per_variable**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- real
- elements_per_variable

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_set_values

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

**elements**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- real
- elements

The permissible values for each discrete variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** set_values

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

categorical

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- real
- categorical

Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

A list of strings of length equal to the number of set (integer, string, or real) variables indicating whether they are strictly categorical, meaning may only take on values from the provided set, or relaxable, meaning may take on any integer or real value between the lowest and highest specified element. Valid categorical strings include 'yes', 'no', 'true', and 'false', or any abbreviation in [yYnNtTfF][.]*

Examples

Discrete design set variable, 'rotor blades', can take on only integer values, 2, 4, or 7 by default. Since categorical is specified to be false, the integrality can be relaxed and 'rotor_blades' can take on any value between 2 and 7, e.g., 3, 6, or 5.5.

discrete_design_set
  integer 1
  elements 2 4 7
  descriptor 'rotor_blades'
  categorical 'no'

initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- real
- initial_point

Initial values
6.4. VARIABLES

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_design_set
- real
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.8 normal_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- normal_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - normal (Gaussian)

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>First parameter of the distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>std_deviations</td>
<td>Second parameter of the distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>lower_bounds</td>
<td>Specify minimum values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>upper_bounds</td>
<td>Specify maximum values</td>
</tr>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Within the normal uncertain optional group specification, the number of normal uncertain variables, the means, and standard deviations are required specifications, and the distribution lower and upper bounds and variable descriptors are optional specifications. The normal distribution is widely used to model uncertain variables such as population characteristics. It is also used to model the mean of a sample: as the sample size becomes very large, the Central Limit Theorem states that the distribution of the mean becomes approximately normal, regardless of the distribution of the original variables.

The density function for the normal distribution is:

\[ f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_N}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - \mu_N}{\sigma_N} \right)^2} \]

where \( \mu_N \) and \( \sigma_N \) are the mean and standard deviation of the normal distribution, respectively.

Note that if you specify bounds for a normal distribution, the sampling occurs from the underlying distribution with the given mean and standard deviation, but samples are not taken outside the bounds (see “bounded normal” distribution type in [Wyss and Jorgensen, 1998]). This can result in the mean and the standard deviation of the sample data being different from the mean and standard deviation of the underlying distribution. For example, if you are sampling from a normal distribution with a mean of 5 and a standard deviation of 3, but you specify bounds of 1 and 7, the resulting mean of the samples will be around 4.3 and the resulting standard deviation will be around 1.6. This is because you have bounded the original distribution significantly, and asymmetrically, since 7 is closer to the original mean than 1.

Theory

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are \( \left[ \mu - 3\sigma, \mu + 3\sigma \right] \)

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.
6.4. VARIABLES

means

- Keywords Area
- variables
- normal_uncertain
- means

First parameter of the distribution

**Specification**

**Alias:** nuv_means

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Means

**std_deviations**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- normal_uncertain
- std_deviations

Second parameter of the distribution

**Specification**

**Alias:** nuv_std_deviations

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Standard deviation

**lower_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- normal_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: nuv_lower_bounds
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify minimum values

upper_bounds
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • normal_uncertain
  • upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

Specification
Alias: nuv_upper_bounds
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify maximum values

initial_point
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • normal_uncertain
  • initial_point

Initial values

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).
6.4. VARIABLES

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- normal_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: nuv_descriptors
  Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.9 lognormal_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- lognormal_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - lognormal

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER

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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>lambdas</td>
<td>First parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

If the logarithm of an uncertain variable X has a normal distribution, that is \( \log X \sim N(\mu, \sigma) \), then X is distributed with a lognormal distribution. The lognormal is often used to model:

1. time to perform some task
2. variables which are the product of a large number of other quantities, by the Central Limit Theorem
3. quantities which cannot have negative values.

Within the lognormal uncertain optional group specification, the number of lognormal uncertain variables, the means, and either standard deviations or error factors must be specified, and the distribution lower and upper bounds and variable descriptors are optional specifications. These distribution bounds can be used to truncate the tails of lognormal distributions, which as for bounded normal, can result in the mean and the standard deviation of the sample data being different from the mean and standard deviation of the underlying distribution (see "bounded lognormal" and "bounded lognormal-n" distribution types in [90] "Wyss and Jorgensen, 1998").

For the lognormal variables, one may specify either the mean \( \mu \) and standard deviation \( \sigma \) of the actual lognormal distribution (option 1), the mean \( \mu \) and error factor \( \epsilon \) of the actual lognormal distribution (option 2), or the mean \( \lambda \) ("lambda") and standard deviation \( \zeta \) ("zeta") of the underlying normal distribution (option 3).

The conversion equations from lognormal mean \( \mu \) and either lognormal error factor \( \epsilon \) or lognormal standard deviation \( \sigma \) to the mean \( \lambda \) and standard deviation \( \zeta \) of the underlying normal distribution are as follows:

\[
\zeta = \frac{\ln(\epsilon)}{1.645}
\]

\[
\zeta^2 = \ln\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\mu^2} + 1\right)
\]

\[
\lambda = \ln(\mu) - \frac{\zeta^2}{2}
\]

Conversions from \( \lambda \) and \( \zeta \) back to \( \mu \) and \( \epsilon \) or \( \sigma \) are as follows:

\[
\mu = e^{\lambda + \frac{\zeta^2}{2}}
\]

\[
\sigma^2 = e^{2\lambda + \zeta^2} (e^{\zeta^2} - 1)
\]

\[
\epsilon = e^{1.645\zeta}
\]
The density function for the lognormal distribution is:

\[ f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\zeta x} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\ln x - \lambda}{\zeta}\right)^2} \]

**Theory**

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are \([0, \mu + 3\sigma]\).

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

**lambdas**

- **Keywords Area**
- variables
- lognormal_uncertain
- lambdas

First parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 3)

**Specification**

**Alias:** lnv_lambdas  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

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<td>Second parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

For the lognormal variables, one may specify the mean \(\lambda\) ("lambda") and standard deviation \(\zeta\) ("zeta") of the underlying normal distribution.

**zetas**

- **Keywords Area**
- variables
- lognormal_uncertain
- lambdas
- zetas

Second parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 3)
**Specification**

**Alias:** lnuv_zetas  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

For the lognormal variables, one may specify the mean $\lambda$ ("lambda") and standard deviation $\zeta$ ("zeta") of the underlying normal distribution.

**means**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **lognormal_uncertain**
- **means**

First parameter of the lognormal distribution (options 1 & 2)

**Specification**

**Alias:** lnuv_means  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

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<td></td>
<td>error_factors</td>
<td>Second parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

For the lognormal variables, one may specify either the mean $\mu$ and standard deviation $\sigma$ of the actual lognormal distribution, the mean $\mu$ and error factor $\epsilon$ of the actual lognormal distribution.

This corresponds to the mean of the lognormal random variable

**std_deviations**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **lognormal_uncertain**
- **means**
- **std_deviations**

Second parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 1)
6.4. VARIABLES

Specification

Alias: lnuv_std_deviations
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

For the lognormal variables, one may specify either the mean $\mu$ and standard deviation $\sigma$ of the actual lognormal distribution.

This corresponds to the standard deviation of the lognormal random variable.

error_factors

- **Keywords Area**
- variables
- lognormal_uncertain
- means
- error_factors

Second parameter of the lognormal distribution (option 2)

Specification

Alias: lnuv_error_factors
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

For the lognormal variables, one may specify the mean $\mu$ and error factor $\epsilon$ of the actual lognormal distribution.

This specifies the error function of the lognormal random variable.

lower_bounds

- **Keywords Area**
- variables
- lognormal_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification

Alias: lnuv_lower_bounds
  Argument(s): REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
Specify minimum values

upper_bounds
• Keywords Area
• variables
• lognormal_uncertain
• upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

Specification
Alias: lnuv_upper_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify maximum values

initial_point
• Keywords Area
• variables
• lognormal_uncertain
• initial_point

Initial values

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).
6.4. VARIABLES

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- lognormal_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: lnuv_descriptors
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.10 uniform_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- uniform_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - uniform

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER
### Description

Within the uniform uncertain optional group specification, the number of uniform uncertain variables and the distribution lower and upper bounds are required specifications, and variable descriptors is an optional specification. The uniform distribution has the density function:

\[
f(x) = \frac{1}{U_U - L_U}
\]

where \( U_U \) and \( L_U \) are the upper and lower bounds of the uniform distribution, respectively. The mean of the uniform distribution is \( \frac{U_U + L_U}{2} \) and the variance is \( \frac{(U_U - L_U)^2}{12} \).

### Theory

Note that this distribution is a special case of the more general beta distribution.

#### lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- uniform_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

### Specification

**Alias:** uu_lower_bounds

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

### Description

Specify minimum values
6.4. VARIABLES

**upper_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- uniform_uncertain
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

**Specification**

Alias: uuv_upper_bounds

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

Specify maximum values

**initial_point**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- uniform_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- uniform_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: uuv_descriptors

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.11 loguniform_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- loguniform_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - loguniform

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

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<tr>
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<td>descriptors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

If the logarithm of an uncertain variable $X$ has a uniform distribution, that is $\log X \sim U(L_{LU}, U_{LU})$, then $X$ is distributed with a loguniform distribution. The distribution lower bound is $L_{LU}$ and upper bound is $U_{LU}$. The loguniform distribution has the density function:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x(lnU_{LU} - lnL_{LU})}$$
6.4. VARIABLES

Theory
For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

lower_bounds
- Keywords Area
- variables
- loguniform_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification
Alias: luuv_lower_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify minimum values

upper_bounds
- Keywords Area
- variables
- loguniform_uncertain
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

Specification
Alias: luuv_upper_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify maximum values
**initial_point**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **loguniform_uncertain**
- **initial_point**

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The *initial_point* specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **loguniform_uncertain**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** luuv_descriptors

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification **descriptors** is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

**6.4.12 triangular_uncertain**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **triangular_uncertain**

Aleatory uncertain variable - triangular
6.4. VARIABLES

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
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<td>Distribution parameter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
The triangular distribution is often used when one does not have much data or information, but does have an estimate of the most likely value and the lower and upper bounds. Within the triangular uncertain optional group specification, the number of triangular uncertain variables, the modes, and the distribution lower and upper bounds are required specifications, and variable descriptors is an optional specification.

The density function for the triangular distribution is:

\[ f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2(x - L_T)}{(U_T - L_T)(M_T - L_T)} & \text{if } L_T \leq x \leq M_T, \\
\frac{2(U_T - x)}{(U_T - L_T)(U_T - M_T)} & \text{if } M_T \leq x \leq U_T, \\
0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \]

if \( L_T \leq x \leq M_T \), and

if \( M_T \leq x \leq U_T \), and 0 elsewhere. In these equations, \( L_T \) is the lower bound, \( U_T \) is the upper bound, and \( M_T \) is the mode of the triangular distribution.

modes
- Keywords Area
- variables
- triangular_uncertain
- modes
  Distribution parameter
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: `tuv_modes`
   Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify the modes

lower_bounds
   - Keywords Area
   - variables
   - triangular_uncertain
   - lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification
Alias: `tuv_lower_bounds`
   Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify minimum values

upper_bounds
   - Keywords Area
   - variables
   - triangular_uncertain
   - upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

Specification
Alias: `tuv_upper_bounds`
   Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify maximum values
6.4. VARIABLES

**initial_point**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- triangular_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

The *initial_point* specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- triangular_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

Alias: tvu_descriptors  
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification *descriptors* is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.  
The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.13 exponential_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- exponential_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - exponential
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The exponential distribution is often used for modeling failure rates.

The density function for the exponential distribution is given by:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}$$

where $\mu_E = \beta$ and $\sigma_E^2 = \beta^2$.

Note that this distribution is a special case of the more general gamma distribution.

Theory

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are $[0, \mu + 3\sigma]$.

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

betas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- exponential_uncertain
- betas

Parameter of the exponential distribution
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

**Alias:** euv_betas  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specifies the list of $\beta$ parameters to define the distributions of the exponential random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of exponential random variables.

**initial_point**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **exponential_uncertain**
- **initial_point**

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **exponential_uncertain**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** euv_descriptors  
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.14 beta_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- beta_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - beta

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

| Required|-| Optional | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
|---------|---------|----------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Required|         |          |                  | alphas                    | First parameter of the beta distribution |
| Required|         |          |                  | betas                     | Second parameter of the beta distribution |
| Required|         |          |                  | lower_bounds              | Specify minimum values                   |
| Required|         |          |                  | upper_bounds              | Specify maximum values                    |
| Optional|         |          |                  | initial_point             | Initial values                            |
| Optional|         |          |                  | descriptors               | Labels for the variables                  |

Description
Within the beta uncertain optional group specification, the number of beta uncertain variables, the alpha and beta parameters, and the distribution upper and lower bounds are required specifications, and the variable descriptors is an optional specification. The beta distribution can be helpful when the actual distribution of an uncertain variable
is unknown, but the user has a good idea of the bounds, the mean, and the standard deviation of the uncertain variable. The density function for the beta distribution is

\[ f(x) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} \frac{(x - L_B)^{\alpha-1}(U_B - x)^{\beta-1}}{(U_B - L_B)^{\alpha+\beta-1}} \]

where \( \Gamma(\alpha) \) is the gamma function and \( B(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)} \) is the beta function. To calculate the mean and standard deviation from the alpha, beta, upper bound, and lower bound parameters of the beta distribution, the following expressions may be used.

\[
\mu_B = L_B + \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} (U_B - L_B)
\]
\[
\sigma_B^2 = \frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \beta)^2(\alpha + \beta + 1)} (U_B - L_B)^2
\]

Solving these for \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) gives:

\[
\alpha = \frac{(\mu_B - L_B)(U_B - \mu_B) - \sigma_B^2}{\sigma_B^2(U_B - L_B) + (\mu_B - L_B)(U_B - \mu_B)}
\]
\[
\beta = \frac{(U_B - \mu_B)(U_B - \mu_B) - \sigma_B^2}{\sigma_B^2(U_B - L_B) + (U_B - \mu_B)(U_B - \mu_B)}
\]

Note that the uniform distribution is a special case of this distribution for parameters \( \alpha = \beta = 1 \).

**Theory**

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

**alphas**

- **Keywords** Area
- **variables**
- **beta_uncertain**
- **alphas**

First parameter of the beta distribution

**Specification**

**Alias:** buv_alphas

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specifies the list of \( \alpha \) parameters to define the distributions of the beta random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of beta random variables.
betas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- beta_uncertain
- betas

Second parameter of the beta distribution

**Specification**

Alias: buv_betas

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specifies the list of $\beta$ parameters to define the distributions of the beta random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of beta random variables.

**lower_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- beta_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

**Specification**

Alias: buv_lower_bounds

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specify minimum values

**upper_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- beta_uncertain
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

**Alias:** buv_upper_bounds

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specify maximum values

**initial_point**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **beta_uncertain**
- **initial_point**

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The *initial_point* specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **beta_uncertain**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** buv_descriptors

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification *descriptors* is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
6.4.15  gamma_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- gamma_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - gamma

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

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<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Description

The gamma distribution is sometimes used to model time to complete a task, such as a repair or service task. It is a very flexible distribution with its shape governed by alpha and beta.

The density function for the gamma distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1}e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} \]

where \( \mu_{GA} = \alpha \beta \) and \( \sigma_{GA}^2 = \alpha \beta^2 \). Note that the exponential distribution is a special case of this distribution for parameter \( \alpha = 1 \).

Theory

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are \([0, \mu + 3\sigma]\).

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.
6.4. VARIABLES

alphas
- Keywords Area
- variables
- gamma_uncertain
- alphas

First parameter of the gamma distribution

Specification
Alias: gauv_alphas
- Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specifies the list of $\alpha$ parameters to define the distributions of the gamma random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of gamma random variables.

betas
- Keywords Area
- variables
- gamma_uncertain
- betas

Second parameter of the gamma distribution

Specification
Alias: gauv_betas
- Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specifies the list of $\beta$ parameters to define the distributions of the gamma random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of gamma random variables.

initial_point
- Keywords Area
- variables
- gamma_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The initial point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

• Keywords Area
• variables
• gamma_uncertain
• descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: gauv_descriptors
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.16 gumbel_uncertain

• Keywords Area
• variables
• gumbel_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - gumbel

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

• continuous_variables
• aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER
6.4. VARIABLES

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Description

The Gumbel distribution is also referred to as the Type I Largest Extreme Value distribution. The distribution of maxima in sample sets from a population with a normal distribution will asymptotically converge to this distribution. It is commonly used to model demand variables such as wind loads and flood levels.

The density function for the Gumbel distribution is given by:

\[
f(x) = \alpha e^{-\alpha(x-\beta)}\exp\left(-e^{-\alpha(x-\beta)}\right)
\]

where \( \mu_{GU} = \beta + \frac{0.5772}{\alpha} \) and \( \sigma_{GU} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{6\alpha}} \).

Theory

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are \( [\mu - 3\sigma, \mu + 3\sigma] \)

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

alphas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- gumbel_uncertain
- alphas

First parameter of the gumbel distribution

Specification

Alias: guuv_alphas

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specifies the list of \( \beta \) parameters to define the distributions of the gumbel random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of gumbel random variables.
betas
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • gumbel_uncertain
  • betas
  
  Second parameter of the gumbel distribution

Specification

Alias: guuv.betas
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specifies the list of $\beta$ parameters to define the distributions of the gumbel random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of gumbel random variables.

initial_point
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • gumbel_uncertain
  • initial_point
  
  Initial values

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors
  • Keywords Area
  • variables
  • gumbel_uncertain
  • descriptors
  
  Labels for the variables
6.4. VARIABLES

Specification

Alias: guuv_descriptors

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.17 frechet_uncertain

- Keywords Area

- variables

- frechet_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - Frechet

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables

- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

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</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

The Frechet distribution is also referred to as the Type II Largest Extreme Value distribution. The distribution of maxima in sample sets from a population with a lognormal distribution will asymptotically converge to this distribution. It is commonly used to model non-negative demand variables.

The density function for the Frechet distribution is:

\[ f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left( \frac{\beta}{x} \right)^{\alpha + 1} e^{-\left( \frac{\beta}{x} \right)^{\alpha}} \]

where \( \mu_F = \beta \Gamma(1 - \frac{1}{\alpha}) \) and \( \sigma^2_F = \beta^2 \left[ \Gamma(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}) - \Gamma^2(1 - \frac{1}{\alpha}) \right] \)

Theory

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are \([0, \mu + 3\sigma]\).

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

alphas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- frechet_uncertain
- alphas

First parameter of the Frechet distribution

Specification

Alias: fuv_alphas

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specifies the list of \( \alpha \) parameters to define the distributions of the Frechet random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of Frechet random variables.

betas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- frechet_uncertain
- betas

Second parameter of the Frechet distribution
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

**Alias:** fuv_betas

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specifies the list of $\beta$ parameters to define the distributions of the Frechet random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of Frechet random variables.

**initial_point**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **frechet_uncertain**
- **initial_point**

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **frechet_uncertain**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** fuv_descriptors

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.18 weibull_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- weibull_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - Weibull

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification
Alias: none

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<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
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</table>

Description
The Weibull distribution is also referred to as the Type III Smallest Extreme Value distribution. The Weibull distribution is commonly used in reliability studies to predict the lifetime of a device. It is also used to model capacity variables such as material strength.

The density function for the Weibull distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left( \frac{x}{\beta} \right)^{\alpha-1} e^{-\left( \frac{x}{\beta} \right)^{\alpha}} \]

where \( \mu_W = \beta \Gamma(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}) \) and \( \sigma_W = \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{2}{\alpha})}{\Gamma^2(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha})} - 1} \mu_W \)
6.4. VARIABLES

alphas
- Keywords Area
- variables
- weibull_uncertain
- alphas

First parameter of the Weibull distribution

Specification
Alias: wuv_alphas
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specifies the list of $\alpha$ parameters to define the distributions of the Weibull random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of Weibull random variables.

betas
- Keywords Area
- variables
- weibull_uncertain
- betas

Second parameter of the Weibull distribution

Specification
Alias: wuv_betas
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specifies the list of $\beta$ parameters to define the distributions of the Weibull random variables. Length must match the other parameters and the number of Weibull random variables.

initial_point
- Keywords Area
- variables
- weibull_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors
- Keywords Area
- variables
- weibull_uncertain
- descriptors
Labels for the variables

Specification
Alias: wuv_descriptors
  Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.
  The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.19 histogram_bin_uncertain
- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_bin_uncertain
  Aleatory uncertain variable - continuous histogram

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- continuous_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER
### Description

Histogram uncertain variables are typically used to model a set of empirical data. The bin histogram (contrast: histogram_point_uncertain) is a continuous aleatory distribution characterized by bins of non-zero width where the uncertain variable may lie, together with the relative frequencies of each bin. Hence it can be used to specify a marginal probability density function arising from data.

The histogram_bin_uncertain keyword specifies the number of variables to be characterized as continuous histograms. The required sub-keywords are: abscissas (ranges of values the variable can take on) and either ordinates or counts (characterizing each variable’s frequency information). When using histogram bin variables, each variable must be defined by at least one bin (with two bounding value pairs). When more than one histogram bin variable is active, pairs_per_variable can be used to specify unequal apportionment of provided bin pairs among the variables.

The abscissas specification defines abscissa values ("x" coordinates) for the probability density function of each histogram variable. When paired with counts, the specifications provide sets of (x,c) pairs for each histogram variable where c defines a count (i.e., a frequency or relative probability) associated with a bin. If using bins of unequal width and specification of probability densities is more natural, then the counts specification can be replaced with an ordinates specification ("y" coordinates) in order to support interpretation of the input as (x,y) pairs defining the profile of a "skyline" probability density function.

Conversion between the two specifications is straightforward: a count/frequency is a cumulative probability quantity defined from the product of the ordinate density value and the x bin width. Thus, in the cases of bins of equal width, ordinate and count specifications are equivalent. In addition, ordinates and counts may be relative values; it is not necessary to scale them as all user inputs will be normalized.

To fully specify a bin-based histogram with \( n \) bins (potentially of unequal width), \( n+1 \) (x,c) or (x,y) pairs must be specified with the following features:

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<td>Number of pairs defining each histogram bin variable</td>
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<td>Ordinates specifying a &quot;skyline&quot; probability density function</td>
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<td></td>
<td>counts</td>
<td>Frequency or relative probability of each bin</td>
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<td>Labels for the variables</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- $x$ is the parameter value for the left boundary of a histogram bin and $c$ is the corresponding count for that bin. Alternatively, $y$ defines the ordinate density value for this bin within a skyline probability density function. The right boundary of the bin is defined by the left boundary of the next pair.

- the final pair specifies the right end of the last bin and must have a $c$ or $y$ value of zero.

- the $x$ values must be strictly increasing.

- all $c$ or $y$ values must be positive, except for the last which must be zero.

- a minimum of two pairs must be specified for each bin-based histogram variable.

Examples

The `pairs_per_variable` specification provides for the proper association of multiple sets of $(x,c)$ or $(x,y)$ pairs with individual histogram variables. For example, in this input snippet

```
histogram_bin_uncertain = 2
pairs_per_variable = 3 4
abscissas = 5 8 10 .1 .2 .3 .4
counts = 17 21 0 12 24 12 0
descriptors = 'hbu_1' 'hbu_2'
```

`pairs_per_variable` associates the first 3 $(x,c)$ pairs from `abscissas` and `counts` \{(5,17),(8,21),(10,0)\} with one bin-based histogram variable, where one bin is defined between 5 and 8 with a count of 17 and another bin is defined between 8 and 10 with a count of 21. The following set of 4 $(x,c)$ pairs \{(0.1,12),(0.2,24),(0.3,12),(0.4,0)\} defines a second bin-based histogram variable containing three equal-width bins with counts 12, 24, and 12 (middle bin is twice as probable as the other two).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `histogram_point_uncertain`

FAQ

**Difference between bin and point histograms**: A (continuous) bin histogram specifies bins of non-zero width, whereas a (discrete) point histogram specifies individual point values, which can be thought of as bins with zero width. In the terminology of LHS [Wyss and Jorgensen, 1998], the bin pairs specification defines a "continuous linear" distribution and the point pairs specification defines a "discrete histogram" distribution (although the points are real-valued, the number of possible values is finite).

`pairs_per_variable`

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_bin_uncertain
- `pairs_per_variable`

Number of pairs defining each histogram bin variable
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

Alias: num_pairs

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

By default, the list of abscissas and counts or ordinates will be evenly divided among the histogram-bin-uncertain variables. pairs_per_variable is a list of integers that specify the number of pairs to apportion to each variable.

abscissas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_bin_uncertain
- abscissas

Real abscissas for a bin histogram

**Specification**

Alias: huv_bin_abscissas

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

A list of real abscissa ("x" coordinate) values characterizing the probability density function for each of the histogram_bin_uncertain variables. These are paired with either counts or ordinates. See histogram_bin_uncertain for details and examples.

ordinates

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_bin_uncertain
- ordinates

Ordinates specifying a "skyline" probability density function

**Specification**

Alias: huv_bin_ordinates

**Argument(s):** REALLIST


**Description**

The *ordinates* list of real values defines the profile of a "skyline" probability density function by pairing with the specified *abscissas*. See *histogram_bin_uncertain* for details.

*counts*
- *Keywords Area*
- *variables*
- *histogram_bin_uncertain*
- *counts*

Frequency or relative probability of each bin

**Specification**

Alias: *huv_bin_counts*

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

The *counts* list of real values gives the frequency or relative probability for each bin in a *histogram_bin_uncertain* specification. These are paired with the specified *abscissas*. See *histogram_bin_uncertain* for details.

*initial_point*
- *Keywords Area*
- *variables*
- *histogram_bin_uncertain*
- *initial_point*

Initial values

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

The *initial_point* specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).
6.4. VARIABLES

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_bin_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** huv_bin_descriptors

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

**6.4.20 poisson_uncertain**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- poisson_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - Poisson

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

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Description

The Poisson distribution is used to predict the number of discrete events that happen in a single time interval. The random events occur uniformly and independently. The expected number of occurrences in a single time interval is $\lambda$, which must be a positive real number. For example, if events occur on average 4 times per year and we are interested in the distribution of events over six months, $\lambda$ would be 2. However, if we were interested in the distribution of events occurring over 5 years, $\lambda$ would be 20.

The density function for the Poisson distribution is given by:

$$f(x) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$

where

- $\lambda$ is the expected number of events occurring in a single time interval
- $x$ is the number of events that occur in this time period
- $f(x)$ is the probability that $x$ events occur in this time period

Theory

When used with design of experiments and multidimensional parameter studies, distribution bounds are inferred. These bounds are $[0, \mu + 3\sigma]$.

For vector and centered parameter studies, an inferred initial starting point is needed for the uncertain variables. These variables are initialized to their means for these studies.

**lambdas**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **poisson_uncertain**
- **lambdas**

The parameter for the Poisson distribution, the expected number of events in the time interval of interest
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The density function for the Poisson distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \]

where \( \lambda \) is the frequency of events happening, and \( x \) is the number of events that occur.

**initial_point**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **poisson_uncertain**
- **initial_point**

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **poisson_uncertain**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST
Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.21 binomial_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- binomial_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - binomial

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

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Description

The binomial distribution describes probabilities associated with a series of independent Bernoulli trials. A Bernoulli trial is an event with two mutually exclusive outcomes, such as 0 or 1, yes or no, success or fail. The probability of success remains the same (the trials are independent).

The density function for the binomial distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \]

where \( p \) is the probability of failure per trial, \( n \) is the number of trials and \( x \) is the number of successes.
Theory

The binomial distribution is typically used to predict the number of failures or defective items in a total of \( n \) independent tests or trials, where each trial has the probability \( p \) of failing or being defective.

\text{probability\_per\_trial}

- Keywords Area
- variables
- binomial\_uncertain
- probability\_per\_trial

A distribution parameter for the binomial distribution

Specification

Alias: prob\_per\_trial

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The binomial distribution is typically used to predict the number of failures (or defective items or some type of event) in a total of \( n \) independent tests or trials, where each trial has the probability \( p \) of failing or being defective. Each particular test can be considered as a Bernoulli trial.

\text{num\_trials}

- Keywords Area
- variables
- binomial\_uncertain
- num\_trials

A distribution parameter

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The binomial distribution is typically used to predict the number of failures (or defective items or some type of event) in a total of \( n \) independent tests or trials, where each trial has the probability \( p \) of failing or being defective. Each particular test can be considered as a Bernoulli trial.
initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- binomial_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- binomial_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification `descriptors` is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.22 negative_binomial_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- negative_binomial_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - negative binomial
### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **discrete_variables**
- **aleatory_uncertain_variables**

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

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### Description

The density function for the negative binomial distribution is given by:

\[
f(x) = \binom{n + x - 1}{x} p^n (1 - p)^x
\]

where

- \( p \) is the probability of success per trial
- \( n \) is the number of successful trials
- \( X \) is the number of failures

### Theory

The negative binomial distribution is typically used to predict the number of failures observed when repeating a test until a total of \( n \) successes have occurred, where each test has a probability \( p \) of success.

**probability_per_trial**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
**negative_binomial_uncertain**

**probability_per_trial**

A negative binomial distribution parameter

**Specification**

**Alias:** prob_per_trial

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The negative binomial distribution is typically used to predict the number of failures observed when repeating a test until a total of $n$ successes have occurred, where each test has a probability $p$ of success.

The density function for the negative binomial distribution is given by:

$$f(x) = \binom{n + x - 1}{x} p^n (1 - p)^x$$

where

- $p$ is the probability of success per trial
- $n$ is the number of successful trials
- $X$ is the number of failures

**num_trials**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **negative_binomial_uncertain**
- **num_trials**

A negative binomial distribution parameter

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The negative binomial distribution is typically used to predict the number of failures observed when repeating a test until a total of $n$ successes have occurred, where each test has a probability $p$ of success.

The density function for the negative binomial distribution is given by:

$$f(x) = \binom{n + x - 1}{x} p^n (1 - p)^x$$

where
6.4. VARIABLES

- $p$ is the probability of success per trial
- $n$ is the number of successful trials
- $X$ is the number of failures

**initial_point**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- negative_binomial_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- negative_binomial_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification `descriptors` is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
6.4.23 geometric uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- geometric uncertain

Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - geometric

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

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Description

The geometric distribution represents the number of successful trials that might occur before a failure is observed. The density function for the geometric distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = p(1 - p)^x \]

where \( p \) is the probability of failure per trial.

probability_per_trial

- Keywords Area
- variables
- geometric_uncertain
- probability_per_trial

Geometric distribution parameter
6.4. VARIABLES

**Specification**

Alias: prob_per_trial

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

The geometric distribution represents the number of successful trials that occur before a failure is observed. The density function for the geometric distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = p(1 - p)^x \]

where \( p \) is the probability of failure per trial and \( x \) is the number of successful trials.

**initial_point**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- geometric_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- geometric_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST
Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.24 hypergeometric_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- hypergeometric_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain discrete variable - hypergeometric

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

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</table>
6.4. VARIABLES

Description

The hypergeometric probability density is used when sampling without replacement from a total population of elements where

- The resulting element of each sample can be separated into one of two non-overlapping sets
- The probability of success changes with each sample.

The density function for the hypergeometric distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \binom{m}{x} \binom{N-m}{n-x} \binom{N}{n} \]

where:

- \( N \) is the total population
- \( m \) is the number of items in the selected population (e.g. the number of white balls in the full urn of \( N \) items)
- \( n \) is the size of the sample drawn (e.g. number of balls drawn)
- \( x \) is the number of sucess (e.g. drawing a white ball)
- \( \binom{a}{b} \) is a binomial coefficient

Theory

The hypergeometric is often described using an urn model. For example, say we have a total population containing \( N \) balls, and we know that \( m \) of the balls are white and the remaining balls are green. If we draw \( n \) balls from the urn without replacement, the hypergeometric distribution describes the probability of drawing \( x \) white balls.

total_population

- Keywords Area
- variables
- hypergeometric_uncertain
- total_population

Parameter for the hypergeometric probability distribution

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
**Description**

The density function for the hypergeometric distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \binom{m}{x} \binom{N-m}{n-x} \binom{N}{n} \]

where

- \( N \) is the total population (e.g. the total number of balls in the urn)
- \( m \) is the number of items in the selected population (e.g. the number of white balls in the full urn of \( N \) items)
- \( n \) is the size of the sample (e.g. number of balls drawn)
- \( x \) is the number of success (e.g. drawing a white ball)
- \( \binom{a}{b} \) is a binomial coefficient

**selected_population**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- hypergeometric_uncertain
- selected_population

Distribution parameter for the hypergeometric distribution

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The density function for the hypergeometric distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \binom{m}{x} \binom{N-m}{n-x} \binom{N}{n} \]

where

- \( N \) is the total population (e.g. the total number of balls in the urn)
- \( m \) is the number of items in the selected population (e.g. the number of white balls in the full urn of \( N \) items)
- \( n \) is the size of the sample (e.g. number of balls drawn)
- \( x \) is the number of success (e.g. drawing a white ball)
- \( \binom{a}{b} \) is a binomial coefficient
6.4. VARIABLES

num_drawn

- Keywords Area
- variables
- hypergeometric_uncertain
- num_drawn

Distribution parameter for the hypergeometric distribution

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The density function for the hypergeometric distribution is given by:

\[ f(x) = \frac{m \binom{N-m}{n-x}}{n \binom{N}{n}} \]

where

- \( N \) is the total population (e.g. the total number of balls in the urn)
- \( m \) is the number of items in the selected population (e.g. the number of white balls in the full urn of \( N \) items)
- \( n \) is the size of the sample (e.g. number of balls drawn)
- \( x \) is the number of successes (e.g. drawing a white ball)
- \( \binom{a}{b} \) is a binomial coefficient

initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- hypergeometric_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
**Description**

The *initial_point* specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- hypergeometric_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification *descriptors* is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output. The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

**6.4.25 histogram_point_uncertain**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain

Aleatory uncertain variable - discrete histogram

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- aleatory_uncertain_variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
### Description

Histogram uncertain variables are typically used to model a set of empirical data. When the variables take on only discrete values or categories, a discrete, or point histogram is used to describe their probability mass function (one could think of this as a histogram_bin_uncertain variable with "bins" of zero width). Dakota supports integer-, string-, and real-valued point histograms.

Point histograms are similar to discrete_design_set and discrete_state_set, but as they are uncertain variables, include the relative probabilities of observing the different values within the set.

The histogram_point_uncertain keyword is followed by one or more of integer, string, or real, each of which specify the number of variables to be characterized as discrete histograms of that sub-type.

Each discrete histogram variable is specified by one or more abscissa/count pairs. The abscissas, are the possible values the variable can take on ("x" coordinates of type integer, string, or real), and must be specified in increasing order. These are paired with counts \( c \) which provide the frequency of the given value or string, relative to other possible values/strings.

Thus, to fully specify a point-based histogram with \( n \) points, \( n \) \((x,c)\) pairs must be specified with the following features:

- \( x \) is the point value (integer, string, or real) and \( c \) is the corresponding count for that value.
- the \( x \) values must be strictly increasing (lexicographically for strings).
- all \( c \) values must be positive.
- a minimum of one pair must be specified for each point-based histogram.

### Examples

The pairs_per_variable specification provides for the proper association of multiple sets of \((x,c)\) or \((x,y)\) pairs with individual histogram variables. For example, in the following specification,

```
histogram_point_uncertain
  integer = 2
  pairs_per_variable = 2 3
  abscissas = 3 4 100 200 300
  counts = 1 1 1 2 1
```

pairs_per_variable associates the \((x,c)\) pairs \{(3,1),(4,1)\} with one point-based histogram variable (where the values 3 and 4 are equally probable) and associates the \((x,c)\) pairs \{(100,1),(200,2),(300,1)\} with a second point-based histogram variable (where the value 200 is twice as probable as either 100 or 300).
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `histogram_bin_uncertain`

FAQ

**Difference between bin and point histograms**: A (continuous) bin histogram specifies bins of non-zero width, whereas a (discrete) point histogram specifies individual point values, which can be thought of as bins with zero width. In the terminology of LHS [90] "Wyss and Jorgensen, 1998"], the bin pairs specification defines a "continuous linear" distribution and the point pairs specification defines a "discrete histogram" distribution (although the points are real-valued, the number of possible values is finite).

**integer**

- `Keywords Area`
- `variables`
- `histogram_point_uncertain`
- `integer`

Integer valued point histogram variable

Specification

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: INTEGER

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6.4. VARIABLES

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<th>Initial values</th>
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**Description**

This probability mass function is integer-valued; the abscissa values must all be integers. The \( n \) abscissa values are paired with \( n \) counts which indicate the relative frequency (mass) of each integer relative to the other specified integers.

**Examples**

```plaintext
histogram_point_uncertain
  integer = 2
  pairs_per_variable = 2  3
  abscissas = 3 4 100 200 300
  counts = 1 1 1 2 1
```

There are two variables, the first one has two possible integer values which are equally probable. The second one has three options, and 200 is twice as probable as either 100 or 300.

**pairs_per_variable**

- **Keywords** Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- integer
- pairs_per_variable

Number of pairs defining each histogram point integer variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_pairs

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

By default, the list of abscissas and counts will be evenly divided among the histogram point integer variables. The number of pairs_per_variable specifies the apportionment of abscissa/count pairs among the histogram point integer variables. It must specify one integer \( \geq 1 \) per variable that indicates how many of the \((\text{abscissa, count}) = (x,c)\) pairs to associate with that variable.
Abscissas

- Keywords Area
- Variables
- Histogram point uncertain
- Integer
- Abscissas

Integer abscissas for a point histogram

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

A list of integer abscissa ("x" coordinate) values characterizing the probability density function for each of the integer histogram point uncertain variables. These must be listed in increasing order for each variable, and are paired with counts. See histogram point uncertain for details and examples.

Counts

- Keywords Area
- Variables
- Histogram point uncertain
- Integer
- Counts

Counts for integer-valued point histogram

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Count or frequency for each of abscissas. See histogram point uncertain for details and examples.
6.4. VARIABLES

initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- integer
- initial_point

Initial values

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- integer
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
string

• Keywords Area
• variables
• histogram_point_uncertain
• string

String (categorical) valued point histogram variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>pairs_per_variable</td>
<td>strings</td>
<td>Number of pairs defining each histogram point string variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>abscissas</td>
<td>strings</td>
<td>String abscissas for a point histogram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>counts</td>
<td>strings</td>
<td>Counts for string-valued point histogram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td>strings</td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>strings</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

This probability mass function is string-valued; the abscissa values must all be strings. The \( n \) abscissa values are paired with \( n \) counts which indicate the relative frequency (mass) of each string relative to the other specified strings.

**Examples**

```plaintext
histogram_point_uncertain
string = 2
pairs_per_variable = 2 3
abscissas = 'no' 'yes' 'function1' 'function2' 'function3'
counts = 1 1 1 2 1
descriptors = 'vote' 'which_function'
```

Here there are two variables, the first one (`vote`) has two possible string values `yes` and `no` which are equally probable. The second one has three options for `which_function`, and `function2` is twice as probable as `function1` or `function3`. 
6.4. VARIABLES

pairs_per_variable

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- string
- pairs_per_variable

Number of pairs defining each histogram point string variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_pairs

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

By default, the list of abscissas and counts will be evenly divided among the histogram point string variables. The number of pairs_per_variable specifies the apportionment of abscissa/count pairs among the histogram point string variables. It must specify one integer \( \geq 1 \) per variable that indicates how many of the (abscissa, count) = (x,c) pairs to associate with that variable.

**abscissas**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- string
- abscissas

String abscissas for a point histogram

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

A list of string abscissa ("x" coordinate) values characterizing the probability density function for each of the string histogram_point_uncertain variables. These must be listed in (lexicographically) increasing order for each variable, and are paired with counts. See histogram_point_uncertain for details and examples.
counts

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- string
- counts

Counts for string-valued point histogram

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Count or frequency for each of abscissas. See histogram_point_uncertain for details and examples.

initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- string
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).
6.4. VARIABLES

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- string
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification **descriptors** is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

**real**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- real

Real valued point histogram variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>pairs_per_variable</td>
<td>pairs_per_variable</td>
<td>Number of pairs defining each histogram point real variable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Required
- absissas
  Real abscissas for a point histogram

Required
- counts
  Counts for real-valued point histogram

Optional
- initial_point
  Initial values

Optional
- descriptors
  Labels for the variables

Description
This probability mass function is real-valued; the abscissa values must all be integers. The \( n \) abscissa values are paired with \( n \) counts which indicate the relative frequency (mass) of each real relative to the other specified reals.

Examples

```
histogram_point_uncertain
real = 2
pairs_per_variable = 2 3
absissas = 3.1415 4.5389 100 200.112345 300
counts = 1 1 2 1
```

There are two variables, the first one has two possible real values which are equally probable. The second one has three possible real value options, and 200.112345 is twice as probable as either 100 or 300.

**pairs_per_variable**
- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- real
- pairs_per_variable
  Number of pairs defining each histogram point real variable

Specification
Alias: num_pairs
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
By default, the list of absissas and counts will be evenly divided among the histogram point real variables. The number of pairs_per_variable specifies the apportionment of abscissa/count pairs among the histogram point real variables. It must specify one integer \( \geq 1 \) per variable that indicates how many of the (abscissa, count) \( = (x,c) \) pairs to associate with that variable.
6.4. VARIABLES

abscissas

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- real
- abscissas

Real abscissas for a point histogram

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

A list of real abscissa ("x" coordinate) values characterizing the probability density function for each of the real \texttt{histogram_point_uncertain} variables. These must be listed in increasing order for each variable, and are paired with counts. See \texttt{histogram_point_uncertain} for details and examples.

counts

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- real
- counts

Counts for real-valued point histogram

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Count or frequency for each of \texttt{abscissas}. See \texttt{histogram_point_uncertain} for details and examples.
initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- real
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* REALLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- histogram_point_uncertain
- real
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

**Specification**

*Alias:* none  
*Argument(s):* STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification `descriptors` is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
6.4. VARIABLES

6.4.26 uncertain_correlation_matrix

- Keywords Area
- variables
- uncertain_correlation_matrix

Correlation among aleatory uncertain variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Aleatory uncertain variables may have correlations specified through use of an uncertain_correlation_matrix specification. This specification is generalized in the sense that its specific meaning depends on the nondeterministic method in use.

When the method is a nondeterministic sampling method (i.e., sampling), then the correlation matrix specifies rank correlations [52] "Iman and Conover, 1982".

When the method is a reliability (i.e., local_reliability or global_reliability) or stochastic expansion (i.e., polynomial_chaos or stoch_collocation) method, then the correlation matrix specifies correlation coefficients (normalized covariance) [42] "Haldar and Mahadevan, 2000".

In either of these cases, specifying the identity matrix results in uncorrelated uncertain variables (the default). The matrix input should be symmetric and have all \( n^2 \) entries where \( n \) is the total number of aleatory uncertain variables.

Ordering of the aleatory uncertain variables is:

1. normal
2. lognormal
3. uniform
4. loguniform
5. triangular
6. exponential
7. beta
8. gamma
9. gumbel
10. frechet
11. weibull
12. histogram bin
13. poisson
14. binomial
15. negative binomial
16. geometric
17. hypergeometric
18. histogram point

When additional variable types are activated, they assume uniform distributions, and the ordering is as listed on variables.

Examples

Consider the following random variables, distributions and correlations:

- \(X_1\), normal, uncorrelated with others
- \(X_2\), normal, correlated with \(X_3\), \(X_4\) and \(X_5\)
- \(X_3\), weibull, correlated with \(X_5\)
- \(X_4\), exponential, correlated with \(X_3\), \(X_4\) and \(X_5\)
- \(X_5\), normal, correlated with \(X_5\)

These correlations are captured by the following commands (order of the variables is respected).

``` uncertainties.correlation_matrix
ordering normal, exponential, weibull
1.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
0.00 1.00 0.50 0.24 0.78
0.00 0.50 1.00 0.00 0.20
0.00 0.24 0.00 1.00 0.49
0.00 0.78 0.20 0.49 1.0
```

6.4.27 continuous_interval_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_interval_uncertain

Epistemic uncertain variable - values from one or more continuous intervals

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- continuous_variables
- epistemic_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: interval_uncertain
Argument(s): INTEGER
6.4. VARIABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_intervals</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the number of intervals for each variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>interval_probabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assign probability mass to each interval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>lower_bounds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify minimum values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>upper_bounds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify maximum values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td></td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

In addition to continuous and discrete aleatory probability distributions, Dakota provides support for continuous and discrete epistemic uncertainties through the keywords:

- `continuous_interval_uncertain`
- `discrete_interval_uncertain`
- `integer`
- `string`
- `real`

Interval-based and set variables do not represent probability distributions.

In the case of continuous intervals, they can specify a single interval per variable which may be used in interval analysis, where the goal is to determine the interval bounds on the output corresponding to the interval bounds on the input. All values between the bounds are permissible. More detailed continuous interval representations can specify a set of belief structures based on intervals that may be contiguous, overlapping, or disjoint. This is used in specifying the inputs necessary for an epistemic uncertainty analysis using Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

**Examples**

The following specification is for an interval analysis:

```plaintext
continuous_interval_uncertain = 2
lower_bounds = 2.0 4.0
upper_bounds = 2.5 5.0
```

The following specification is for a Dempster-Shafer analysis:

```plaintext
continuous_interval_uncertain = 2
num_intervals = 3 2
interval_probs = 0.25 0.5 0.25 0.4 0.6
lower_bounds = 2.0 4.0 4.5 1.0 3.0
upper_bounds = 2.5 5.0 6.0 5.0 5.0
```
Here there are 2 interval uncertain variables. The first one is defined by three intervals, and the second by two intervals. The three intervals for the first variable have basic probability assignments of 0.2, 0.5, and 0.3, respectively, while the basic probability assignments for the two intervals for the second variable are 0.4 and 0.6. The basic probability assignments for each interval variable must sum to one. The interval bounds for the first variable are [2.2.5], [4.5], and [4.5, 6], and the interval bounds for the second variable are [1.0, 5.0] and [3.0, 5.0]. Note that the intervals can be overlapping or disjoint. The BPA for the first variable indicates that it is twice as likely that the value occurs on the interval [4,5] than either [2.2.5] or [4.5,6].

Theory

The continuous interval uncertain variable is NOT a probability distribution. Although it may seem similar to a histogram, the interpretation of this uncertain variable is different. It is used in epistemic uncertainty analysis, where one is trying to model uncertainty due to lack of knowledge. The continuous interval uncertain variable is used in both interval analysis and in Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

- **interval analysis** - only one interval is allowed for each `continuous_interval_uncertain` variable - the interval is defined by lower and upper bounds - the value of the random variable lies somewhere in this interval - output is the minimum and maximum function value conditional on the specified interval

- **Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence** - multiple intervals can be assigned to each `continuous_interval_uncertain` variable - a Basic Probability Assignment (BPA) is associated with each interval. The BPA represents a probability that the value of the uncertain variable is located within that interval. - each interval is defined by lower and upper bounds - outputs are called "belief" and "plausibility." Belief represents the smallest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence, while plausibility represents the largest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence. Evidence is the intervals together with their BPA.

`num_intervals`

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **continuous_interval_uncertain**
- **num_intervals**

Specify the number of intervals for each variable

Specification

**Alias:** `iuv_num_intervals`

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

Description

In Dakota, epistemic uncertainty analysis is performed using either interval estimation or Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence. In these approaches, one does not assign a probability distribution to each uncertain input variable. Rather, one divides each uncertain input variable into one or more intervals. The input parameters are only known to occur within intervals; nothing more is assumed. `num_intervals` specifies the number of such intervals associated with each interval uncertain parameter.
6.4. VARIABLES

interval_probabilities

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_interval_uncertain
- interval_probabilities

Assign probability mass to each interval

Specification

Alias: interval_probs iuv_interval_probs

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The basic probability assignments for each interval variable must sum to one. For example, if an interval variable is defined with three intervals, the probabilities for these intervals could be 0.2, 0.5, and 0.3 which sum to one, but could not be 0.5,0.5, and 0.5 which do not sum to one.

lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_interval_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specify minimum values

upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_interval_uncertain
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
Specify maximum values

initial_point
- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_interval_uncertain
- initial_point
Initial values

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors
- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_interval_uncertain
- descriptors
Labels for the variables

Specification
Alias: iuv_descriptors
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.
- The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
6.4.28 discrete_interval_uncertain

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain

Epistemic uncertain variable - values from one or more discrete intervals

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:
- continuous_variables
- epistemic_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: discrete_uncertain_range

Argument(s): INTEGER

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optional   | Group          |               |                           |
| Optional   | num_intervals  |               | Specify the number of intervals for each variable |
| Required   | interval_-     |               | Assign probability mass to each interval |
| Required   | probabilities  |               | Specify minimum values |
| Required   | lower_bounds   |               | Specify maximum values |
| Optional   | upper_bounds   |               | Initial values |
| Optional   | initial_point  |               | Labels for the variables |
| Optional   | descriptors     |               |                           |

Description

In addition to continuous and discrete aleatory probability distributions, Dakota provides support for continuous and discrete epistemic uncertainties through the keywords:

- continuous_interval_uncertain
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- integer
- real
Interval-based and set variables do not represent probability distributions.

In the case of discrete intervals, they can specify a single interval per variable which may be used in interval analysis, where the goal is to determine the interval bounds on the output corresponding to the interval bounds on the input. Permissible values are any integer within the bound. More detailed continuous interval representations can specify a set of belief structures based on intervals that may be contiguous, overlapping, or disjoint. This is used in specifying the inputs necessary for an epistemic uncertainty analysis using Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

Note that the intervals can be overlapping or disjoint.

Examples
Let \(d_1\) be 2, 3 or 4 with probability 0.2, 4 or 5 with probability 0.5 and 6 with probability 0.3. Let \(d_2\) be 4, 5 or 6 with probability 0.4 and 6, 7 or 8 with probability 0.6. The following specification is for a Dempster-Shafer analysis:

```
 discrete_interval_uncertain = 2
 num_intervals = 3 2
 interval_probs = 0.2 0.5 0.3 0.4 0.6
 lower_bounds = 2 4 6 4 6
 upper_bounds = 4 5 6 6 8
```

Theory

- Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence - multiple intervals can be assigned to each discrete_interval_uncertain variable - a Basic Probability Assignment (BPA) is associated with each interval. The BPA represents a probability that the value of the uncertain variable is located within that interval. - each interval is defined by lower and upper bounds - outputs are called "belief" and "plausibility." Belief represents the smallest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence, while plausibility represents the largest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence. Evidence is the intervals together with their BPA.

num_intervals

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- num_intervals

Specify the number of intervals for each variable

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

In Dakota, epistemic uncertainty analysis is performed using either interval estimation or Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence. In these approaches, one does not assign a probability distribution to each uncertain input variable. Rather, one divides each uncertain input variable into one or more intervals. The input parameters are only known to occur within intervals; nothing more is assumed. num_intervals specifies the number of such intervals associated with each interval uncertain parameter.
6.4. VARIABLES

interval_probabilities

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- interval_probabilities

Assign probability mass to each interval

Specification

Alias: interval_probs range_probabilities range_probs
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The basic probability assignments for each interval variable must sum to one. For example, if an interval variable is defined with three intervals, the probabilities for these intervals could be 0.2, 0.5, and 0.3 which sum to one, but could not be 0.5,0.5, and 0.5 which do not sum to one.

lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

Specify minimum values

upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values
**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Specify maximum values

**initial_point**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- initial_point

Initial values

---

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

**descriptors**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

---

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional variables labels specification `descriptors` is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
6.4.29 discrete_uncertain_set

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set

Set-valued discrete uncertain variables

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>integer</td>
<td>Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - integers within a set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>string</td>
<td>Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - strings within a set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>real</td>
<td>Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - real numbers within a set</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Discrete uncertain variables whose values come from a set of admissible elements. Each variable specified must be of type integer, string, or real.

integer

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- integer

Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - integers within a set
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- epistemic_uncertain_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements_per_variable</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>set_probabilities</td>
<td>This keyword defines the probabilities for the various elements of discrete sets. Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>categorical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
In addition to continuous and discrete aleatory probability distributions, Dakota provides support for continuous and discrete epistemic uncertainties through the keywords:

- continuous_interval_uncertain
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- integer
6.4. VARIABLES

- string
- real

Interval-based and set variables do not represent probability distributions.

Discrete set variables may be used to specify categorical choices which are epistemic. For example, if we have three possible forms for a physics model (model 1, 2, or 3) and there is epistemic uncertainty about which one is correct, a discrete uncertain set may be used to represent this type of uncertainty.

This variable is defined by a set of integers, in which the discrete value may take any value within the integer set (for example, the set may be defined as 1, 2, and 4)

Examples

Let d1 be 2 or 13 and d2 be 4, 5 or 26. The following specification is for an interval analysis:

```casl
discrete_uncertain_set
integer
num_set_values 2 3
set_values 2 13 4 5 26
descritors 'd1' 'd2'
```

Theory

The `discrete_uncertain_set` variable is NOT a discrete random variable. It can be contrasted to the histogram-defined random variables: `histogram_bin_uncertain` and `histogram_point_uncertain`. It is used in epistemic uncertainty analysis, where one is trying to model uncertainty due to lack of knowledge.

The discrete uncertain set integer variable is used in both interval analysis and in Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

- interval analysis -the values are integers, equally weighted -the true value of the random variable is one of the integers in this set -output is the minimum and maximum function value conditional on the specified inputs
- Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence -the values are integers, but they can be assigned different weights -outputs are called "belief" and "plausibility." Belief represents the smallest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence, while plausibility represents the largest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence. Evidence is the values together with their weights.

elements_per_variable

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- integer
- elements_per_variable

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

Specification

Alias: num_set_values

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
**Description**

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

**Specification**

Alias: set_values

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

**set_probabilities**

Alias: set_probs

Argument(s): REALLIST

This keyword defines the probabilities for the various elements of discrete sets.
6.4. VARIABLES

Description

There are three types of discrete_uncertain_set variables: integer, string, or real sets. With each of these types, one defines the number of elements of the set per that variable, the values of those elements, and the associated probabilities. For example, if one has an integer discrete uncertain set variable with 3 elements \{3,4,8\}, then one could define the probabilities associated with those set elements as (for example) 0.2, 0.5, and 0.3. The set_probabilities for a particular variable should sum to one over all the elements in that set.

categorical

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- integer
- categorical

Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

A list of strings of length equal to the number of set (integer, string, or real) variables indicating whether they are strictly categorical, meaning may only take on values from the provided set, or relaxable, meaning may take on any integer or real value between the lowest and highest specified element. Valid categorical strings include 'yes', 'no', 'true', and 'false', or any abbreviation in \[yYnNtTfF][.]\*

Examples

Discrete_design_set variable, 'rotor_blades', can take on only integer values, 2, 4, or 7 by default. Since categorical is specified to be false, the integrality can be relaxed and ‘rotor_blades’ can take on any value between 2 and 7, e.g., 3, 6, or 5.5.

discrete_design_set
  integer 1
  elements 2 4 7
descriptor ‘rotor_blades’
categorical ‘no’

initial_point

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- integer
• initial_point

Initial values

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

• Keywords Area
• variables
• discrete_uncertain_set
• integer
• descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

string

• Keywords Area
• variables
• discrete_uncertain_set
• string

Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - strings within a set
6.4. VARIABLES

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- epistemic_uncertain_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>elements_per_variable</td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>elements</td>
<td></td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>set_probabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>This keyword defines the probabilities for the various elements of discrete sets. Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td></td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

In addition to continuous and discrete aleatory probability distributions, Dakota provides support for continuous and discrete epistemic uncertainties through the keywords:

- continuous_interval_uncertain
- discrete_interval_uncertain
- integer
- string
- real

Interval-based and set variables do not represent probability distributions.
Discrete set variables may be used to specify categorical choices which are epistemic. For example, if we have three possible forms for a physics model (model 1, 2, or 3) and there is epistemic uncertainty about which one is correct, a discrete uncertain set may be used to represent this type of uncertainty.

This variable is defined by a set of integers, in which the discrete value may take any value within the integer set (for example, the set may be defined as 1, 2, and 4)

```
elements_per_variable
  * Keywords Area
  * variables
  * discrete_uncertain_set
  * string
  * elements_per_variable
```

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

**Specification**

**Alias**: num_set_values

**Argument(s)**: INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

```
elements
  * Keywords Area
  * variables
  * discrete_uncertain_set
  * string
  * elements
```

The permissible values for each discrete variable

**Specification**

**Alias**: set_values

**Argument(s)**: STRINGLIST

**Description**

Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.
set_probabilities

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- string
- set_probabilities

This keyword defines the probabilities for the various elements of discrete sets.

**Specification**

**Alias:** set_probs

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

There are three types of `discrete_uncertain_set` variables: integer, string, or real sets. With each of these types, one defines the number of elements of the set per that variable, the values of those elements, and the associated probabilities. For example, if one has an integer discrete uncertain set variable with 3 elements `{3,4,8}`, then one could define the probabilities associated with those set elements as (for example) 0.2, 0.5, and 0.3. The set_probabilities for a particular variable should sum to one over all the elements in that set.

**initial_point**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- string
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The `initial_point` specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).
descriptors
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- string
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

real
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- real

Discrete, epistemic uncertain variable - real numbers within a set

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- discrete_variables
- epistemic_uncertain_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

In addition to continuous and discrete aleatory probability distributions, Dakota provides support for continuous and discrete epistemic uncertainties through the keywords:

- `continuous_interval_uncertain`
- `discrete_interval_uncertain`
- `integer`
- `string`
- `real`

Interval-based and set variables do not represent probability distributions.

Discrete set variables may be used to specify categorical choices which are epistemic. For example, if we have three possible forms for a physics model (model 1, 2, or 3) and there is epistemic uncertainty about which one is correct, a discrete uncertain set may be used to represent this type of uncertainty.

This variable is defined by a set of reals, in which the discrete variable may take any value defined within the real set (for example, a parameter may have two allowable real values, 3.285 or 4.79).

### Examples

Let d1 be 2.1 or 1.3 and d2 be 0.4, 5 or 2.6. The following specification is for an interval analysis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>elements_per_variable</th>
<th>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>set_probabilities</td>
<td>This keyword defines the probabilities for the various elements of discrete sets. Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>categorical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>initial_point</td>
<td>Initial values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example Specification**

```plaintext```

```
CASL-U-2015-0089-000
```

```plaintext```
The discrete uncertain set–integer variable is NOT a discrete random variable. It can be contrasted to the histogram-defined random variables: histogram_bin_uncertain and histogram_point_uncertain. It is used in epistemic uncertainty analysis, where one is trying to model uncertainty due to lack of knowledge.

The discrete uncertain set integer variable is used in both interval analysis and in Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence.

- **interval analysis** -the values are integers, equally weighted -the true value of the random variable is one of the integers in this set -output is the minimum and maximum function value conditional on the specified inputs

- **Dempster-Shafer theory of evidence** -the values are integers, but they can be assigned different weights -outputs are called "belief" and "plausibility." Belief represents the smallest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence, while plausibility represents the largest possible probability that is consistent with the evidence. Evidence is the values together with their weights.

**elements_per_variable**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **discrete_uncertain_set**
- **real**
- **elements_per_variable**

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_set_values

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.
6.4. VARIABLES

**elements**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- real
- elements

The permissible values for each discrete variable

**Specification**

_Alias:_ set_values

_Argument(s):_ REALLIST

**Description**

Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

**set_probabilities**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- real
- set_probabilities

This keyword defines the probabilities for the various elements of discrete sets.

**Specification**

_Alias:_ set_probs

_Argument(s):_ REALLIST

**Description**

There are three types of discrete_uncertain_set variables: integer, string, or real sets. With each of these types, one defines the number of elements of the set per that variable, the values of those elements, and the associated probabilities. For example, if one has an integer discrete uncertain set variable with 3 elements \{3,4,8\}, then one could define the probabilities associated with those set elements as (for example) 0.2, 0.5, and 0.3. The set_probabilities for a particular variable should sum to one over all the elements in that set.
categorical

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- real
- categorical

Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

A list of strings of length equal to the number of set (integer, string, or real) variables indicating whether they are strictly categorical, meaning may only take on values from the provided set, or relaxable, meaning may take on any integer or real value between the lowest and highest specified element. Valid categorical strings include 'yes', 'no', 'true', and 'false', or any abbreviation in [yYnNtTfF[.].]

**Examples**

Discrete design set variable, 'rotor blades', can take on only integer values, 2, 4, or 7 by default. Since categorical is specified to be false, the integrality can be relaxed and 'rotor blades' can take on any value between 2 and 7, e.g., 3, 6, or 5.5.

```plaintext
discrete_design_set
  integer 1
    elements 2 4 7
descriptor 'rotor_blades'
categorical 'no'
```

**initial_point**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- real
- initial_point

Initial values

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
6.4. VARIABLES

Description

The initial_point specifications provide the point in design space (variable values) from which an iterator is started. These default to the midpoint of bounds (continuous design variables) or the middle value (discrete design variables).

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_uncertain_set
- real
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output. The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.30 continuous_state

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_state

Continuous state variables

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- state_variables
- continuous_variables

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER
### Description

Continuous state variables are defined by bounds.

  Default behavior for most methods is that only the initial_state values are used.
  See the state_variables page for details on the behavior of state variables.

**initial_state**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_state
- initial_state

Initial values for the state variables

**Specification**

Alias: csv_initial_state

Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

The initial_state specifications provide the initial values for the state variables.

This is an optional keyword. If it is not specified, the initial state will be inferred from the other keywords that define the state variable.

Defaults are:

- Continuous state variables - use the midpoint of the bounds
- Set variables - use the value with the index closest to the middle of the set
- Range variables - use the midpoint of the range
6.4. VARIABLES

lower_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_state
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification

Alias: csv_lower_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specify minimum values

upper_bounds

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_state
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

Specification

Alias: csv_upper_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specify maximum values

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- continuous_state
- descriptors

Labels for the variables
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: csv_descriptors

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.31 discrete_state_range

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_range

Discrete state variables; each defined by an integer interval

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- state_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-</th>
<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
</tr>
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<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
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<td>lower_bounds</td>
<td>Initial values for the state variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>upper_bounds</td>
<td>Specify minimum values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Specify maximum values</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Discrete state variables defined by bounds. The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the discrete_variables page. See the state_variables page for details on the behavior of state variables.
6.4. VARIABLES

initial_state
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_range
- initial_state

Initial values for the state variables

Specification
Alias: dsv_initial_state
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
The initial_state specifications provide the initial values for the state variables.
This is an optional keyword. If it is not specified, the initial state will be inferred from the other keywords that define the state variable.
Defaults are:
- Continuous state variables - use the midpoint of the bounds
- Set variables - use the value with the index closest to the middle of the set
- Range variables - use the midpoint of the range

lower_bounds
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_range
- lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

Specification
Alias: dsv_lower_bounds
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
Specify minimum values
upper_bounds
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_range
- upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

Specification
Alias: dsv_upper_bounds
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
Specify maximum values

descriptors
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_range
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification
Alias: dsv_descriptors
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

6.4.32 discrete_state_set
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set

Set-valued discrete state variables
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- state_variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
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<td>Optional</td>
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<td>integer</td>
<td>Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible integers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>string</td>
<td>String-valued discrete state set variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>real</td>
<td>Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible real numbers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Discrete state variables whose values come from a set of admissible elements. Each variable specified must be of type integer, string, or real.

integer
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- integer

Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible integers

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- state_variables
### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements_per_variable</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>categorical</td>
<td>Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>initial_state</td>
<td>Initial values for the state variables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>Labels for the variables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

Discrete state variables defined by a set of permissible integers.

The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the discrete_variables page. See the state_variables page for details on the behavior of state variables.

**elements_per_variable**

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- integer
- elements_per_variable

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

### Specification

**Alias:** num_set_values  
**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST
6.4. VARIABLES

Description
Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

elements
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- integer
- elements
The permissible values for each discrete variable

Specification
Alias: set_values
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

categorical
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- integer
- categorical
Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
A list of strings of length equal to the number of set (integer, string, or real) variables indicating whether they are strictly categorical, meaning may only take on values from the provided set, or relaxable, meaning may take on any integer or real value between the lowest and highest specified element. Valid categorical strings include 'yes', 'no', 'true', and 'false', or any abbreviation in [yYnNtTfF][.]*
Examples

Discrete design set variable, 'rotor blades', can take on only integer values, 2, 4, or 7 by default. Since categorical is specified to be false, the integrality can be relaxed and 'rotor blades' can take on any value between 2 and 7, e.g., 3, 6, or 5.5.

```
 discrete_design_set
   integer 1
   elements 2 4 7
   descriptor 'rotor_blades'
   categorical 'no'
```

initial_state

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- integer
- initial_state

Initial values for the state variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The initial_state specifications provide the initial values for the state variables. This is an optional keyword. If it is not specified, the initial state will be inferred from the other keywords that define the state variable.

Defaults are:

- Continuous state variables - use the midpoint of the bounds
- Set variables - use the value with the index closest to the middle of the set
- Range variables - use the midpoint of the range

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- integer
- descriptors

Labels for the variables
6.4. VARIABLES

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

string

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- string

String-valued discrete state set variables

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- state_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>elements_per_variable</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

Discrete state variables whose values come from a specified set of admissible strings. The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the `discrete_variables` page. See the `state_variables` page for details on the behavior of state variables. Each string element value must be quoted and may contain alphanumeric, dash, underscore, and colon. White space, quote characters, and backslash/metacharacters are not permitted.

**elements_per_variable**

- `Keywords Area`
- `variables`
- `discrete_state_set`
- `string`
- `elements_per_variable`

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

### Specification

**Alias:** `num_set_values`

**Argument(s):** `INTEGERLIST`

### Description

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

**elements**

- `Keywords Area`
- `variables`
- `discrete_state_set`
- `string`
- `elements`

The permissible values for each discrete variable
6.4. VARIABLES

Specification
Alias: set_values
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the discrete_variables page.

initial_state
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- string
- initial_state

Initial values for the state variables

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description
The initial_state specifications provide the initial values for the state variables.
This is an optional keyword. If it is not specified, the initial state will be inferred from the other keywords that define the state variable.
Defaults are:
- Continuous state variables - use the midpoint of the bounds
- Set variables - use the value with the index closest to the middle of the set
- Range variables - use the midpoint of the range

descriptors
- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- string
- descriptors

Labels for the variables
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.

real

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- real

Discrete state variables, each defined by a set of permissible real numbers

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- discrete_variables
- state_variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
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<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements_per_variable</td>
<td>Number of admissible elements for each set variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>elements</td>
<td>The permissible values for each discrete variable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.4. VARIABLES

| Optional | categorical | Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable |
| Optional | initial_state | Initial values for the state variables |
| Optional | descriptors | Labels for the variables |

### Description

Discrete state variables defined by a set of permissible real numbers.

The details of how to specify this discrete variable are located on the `discrete_variables` page. See the `state_variables` page for details on the behavior of state variables.

### elements_per_variable

- **Keywords Area**
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- real
- elements_per_variable

Number of admissible elements for each set variable

### Specification

**Alias:** num_set_values

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

### Description

Discrete set variables (including design, uncertain, and state) take on only a fixed set of values. For each type (integer, string, or real), this keyword specifies how many admissible values are provided for each variable. If not specified, equal apportionment of elements among variables is assumed, and the number of elements must be evenly divisible by the number of variables.

### elements

- **Keywords Area**
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- real
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

- **elements**

  The permissible values for each discrete variable

**Specification**

**Alias:** set_values

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

Specify the permissible values for discrete set variables (of type integer, string, or real). See the description on the **discrete_variables** page.

**categorical**

- **Keywords Area**
- **variables**
- **discrete_state_set**
- **real**
- **categorical**

Whether the set-valued variables are categorical or relaxable

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

A list of strings of length equal to the number of set (integer, string, or real) variables indicating whether they are strictly categorical, meaning may only take on values from the provided set, or relaxable, meaning may take on any integer or real value between the lowest and highest specified element. Valid categorical strings include 'yes', 'no', 'true', and 'false', or any abbreviation in [yYnNtTfF][.]

**Examples**

Discrete design_set variable, 'rotor_blades', can take on only integer values, 2, 4, or 7 by default. Since categorical is specified to be false, the integrality can be relaxed and 'rotor_blades' can take on any value between 2 and 7, e.g., 3, 6, or 5.5.

```
 discrete_design_set
  integer 1
  elements 2 4 7
  descriptor 'rotor_blades'
  categorical 'no'
```
6.4. VARIABLES

initial_state

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- real
- initial_state

Initial values for the state variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

The initial_state specifications provide the initial values for the state variables. This is an optional keyword. If it is not specified, the initial state will be inferred from the other keywords that define the state variable.

Defaults are:

- Continuous state variables - use the midpoint of the bounds
- Set variables - use the value with the index closest to the middle of the set
- Range variables - use the midpoint of the range

descriptors

- Keywords Area
- variables
- discrete_state_set
- real
- descriptors

Labels for the variables

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

The optional variables labels specification descriptors is a list of strings which identify the variables. These are used in console and tabular output.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

6.5 interface

- Keywords Area
- interface

Specifies how function evaluations will be performed in order to map the variables into the responses.

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- block

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>id_interface</td>
<td></td>
<td>Name the interface block; helpful when there are multiple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>algebraic_mappings</td>
<td></td>
<td>Use AMPL to define algebraic input-output mappings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>analysis_drivers</td>
<td></td>
<td>Define how Dakota should run a function evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>asynchronous</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify analysis driver concurrency, when Dakota is run in serial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>evaluation_servers</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the number of evaluation servers when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.5. INTERFACE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>evaluation_scheduling</th>
<th>Specify the scheduling of concurrent evaluations when Dakota is run in parallel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>processors_per_evaluation</td>
<td>Specify the number of processors per evaluation server when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>analysis_servers</td>
<td>Specify the number of analysis servers when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>analysis_scheduling</td>
<td>Specify the scheduling of concurrent analyses when Dakota is run in parallel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The interface section in a Dakota input file specifies how function evaluations will be performed in order to map the variables into the responses.

In this context, a "function evaluation" is the series of operations that takes the variables and computes the responses. This can be comprised of one or many codes, scripts, and glue, which are generically referred to as "analysis drivers".

The optional asynchronous flag specifies use of asynchronous protocols (i.e., background system calls, nonblocking forks, POSIX threads) when evaluations or analyses are invoked. The evaluation_concurrency and analysis_concurrency specifications serve a dual purpose:

- when running Dakota on a single processor in asynchronous mode, the default concurrency of evaluations and analyses is all concurrency that is available. The evaluation_concurrency and analysis_concurrency specifications can be used to limit this concurrency in order to avoid machine overload or usage policy violation.

- when running Dakota on multiple processors in message passing mode, the default concurrency of evaluations and analyses on each of the servers is one (i.e., the parallelism is exclusively that of the message passing). With the evaluation_concurrency and analysis_concurrency specifications, a hybrid parallelism can be selected through combination of message passing parallelism with asynchronous parallelism on each server.

If Dakota’s automatic parallel configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can specify overrides that enforce a desired number of partitions, a size for the partitions, and/or a desired scheduling configuration at the evaluation and analysis parallelism levels. The optional evaluation_servers and analysis_servers specifications support user overrides of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of evaluation servers and the number of analysis servers, and the optional processors_per_evaluation specification supports user
overrides for the size of processor allocations for evaluation servers (Note: see `direct` for the `processors_per_analysis` specification supported for direct interfaces). Similarly, the optional `evaluation_scheduling` and `analysis_scheduling` specifications can be used to override the automatic parallel configuration at the evaluation and analysis parallelism levels to use either a dedicated master or a peer partition. In addition, the evaluation parallelism level supports an override for the scheduling algorithm used within a peer partition; this can be either `dynamic` or `static` scheduling (default configuration of a peer partition employs a dynamic scheduler when it can be supported; i.e., when the peer 1 local scheduling can be asynchronous). The ParallelLibrary class and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual \cite{Adams2010} provide additional details on parallel configurations.

When performing asynchronous local evaluations, the `local_evaluation_scheduling` keyword controls how new evaluation jobs are dispatched when one completes. If the `local_evaluation_scheduling` is specified as `dynamic` (the default), each completed evaluation will be replaced by the next in the local evaluation queue. If `local_evaluation_scheduling` is specified as `static`, each completed evaluation will be replaced by an evaluation number that is congruent modulo the `evaluation_concurrency`. This is helpful for relative node scheduling as described in Dakota/examples/parallelism. For example, assuming only asynchronous local concurrency (no MPI), if the local concurrency is 6 and job 2 completes, it will be replaced with job 8. For the case of hybrid parallelism, static local scheduling results in evaluation replacements that are modulo the total capacity, defined as the product of the evaluation concurrency and the number of evaluation servers. Both of these cases can result in idle processors if runtimes are non-uniform, so the default dynamic scheduling is preferred when relative node scheduling is not required.

**Theory**

Function evaluations are performed using either interfaces to simulation codes, algebraic mappings, or a combination of the two.

When employing mappings with simulation codes, the interface invokes the simulation using either forks, direct function invocations, or computational grid invocations.

- In the fork case, Dakota will treat the simulation as a black-box and communication between Dakota and the simulation occurs through parameter and result files. This is the most common case.

- In the direct function case, the simulation is internal to Dakota and communication occurs through the function parameter list. The direct case can involve linked simulation codes or test functions which are compiled into the Dakota executable. The test functions allow for rapid testing of algorithms without process creation overhead or engineering simulation expense.

- The grid case is experimental and under development, but is intended to support simulations which are external to Dakota and geographically distributed.

When employing algebraic mappings, the AMPL solver library \cite{Gay1997} is used to evaluate a directed acyclic graph (DAG) specification from a separate stub.nl file. Separate stub.col and stub.row files are also required to declare the string identifiers of the subset of inputs and outputs, respectively, that will be used in the algebraic mappings.

6.5.1 **id_interface**

- **Keywords Area**
  - **interface**
  - **id_interface**

  Name the interface block; helpful when there are multiple
6.5. INTERFACE

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- block_identifier

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
The optional set identifier specification uses the keyword id_interface to input a string for use in identifying a particular interface specification. A model can then identify the use of this interface by specifying the same string in its interface_pointer specification.

If the id_interface specification is omitted, a particular interface specification will be used by a model only if that model omits specifying a interface_pointer and if the interface set was the last set parsed (or is the only set parsed). In common practice, if only one interface set exists, then id_interface can be safely omitted from the interface specification and interface_pointer can be omitted from the model specification(s), since there is no potential for ambiguity in this case.

Examples
For example, a model whose specification contains interface_pointer = 'I1' will use an interface specification with id_interface = 'I1'.

6.5.2 algebraic_mappings

- Keywords Area
- interface
- algebraic_mappings

Use AMPL to define algebraic input-output mappings

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description
If desired, one can define algebraic input-output mappings using the AMPL code \cite{Fourer2003} and save these mappings in 3 files: stub.nl, stub.col, and stub.row, where stub is a particular root name describing a particular problem. These files names can be communicated to Dakota using the algebraic_mappings input. This string may either specify the stub.nl filename, or alternatively, just the stub itself.

Dakota then uses stub.col and stub.row to extract the input and output identifier strings and employs the AMPL solver library \cite{Gay1997} to process the DAG specification in stub.nl. The variable and objective function names declared within AMPL should be a subset of the variable descriptors and response descriptors used by Dakota (see variables and descriptors). Ordering is not important, as Dakota will reorder data as needed.
6.5.3 analysis_drivers

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers

Define how Dakota should run a function evaluation

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>analysis_components</td>
<td>Provide additional identifiers to analysis drivers. Run a pre-processing script before the analysis drivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>input_filter</td>
<td>Run a post-processing script after the analysis drivers (Not recommended)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>output_filter</td>
<td>Launch analysis drivers with a system call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fork</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Launch analysis drivers using fork command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>direct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Run analysis drivers that are linked-to or compiled-with Dakota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>matlab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Run Matlab with a direct interface - requires special Dakota build</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.5. INTERFACE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interface Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Python</td>
<td>Run Python with a direct interface - requires special Dakota build</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scilab</td>
<td>Run Scilab with a direct interface - requires special Dakota build</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grid</td>
<td>Experimental capability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failure capture</td>
<td>Determine how Dakota responds to analysis driver failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deactivate</td>
<td>Deactivate Dakota features to simplify interface development, increase execution speed, or reduce memory and disk requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The required `analysis_drivers` keyword provides the names of one or more executable analysis programs or scripts, a.k.a. "drivers" which comprise a function evaluation. The optional and required sub-keywords specify how Dakota will manage directories and files, and run the driver(s).

Types of Interfaces

Dakota has two recommended ways of running analysis drivers:

- as an external processes (`fork`), or
- using internal code to couple to the analysis driver (`direct`)

Other options are available for advanced users, and are not as well documented, supported, or tested:

- external processes (`system`)
- internal coupling (`python, matlab, scilab, grid`)

Use Cases

The internally coupled codes have few options because many of the details are already handled with the coupling. Their behavior is described in the `direct` keyword.

For external processes using the `fork` keyword,

A function evaluation may comprise:

1. A single analysis driver: Function evaluation, including all pre- and post-processing is contained entirely within a single script/executable.

2. A single analysis driver with filters: Function evaluation is explicitly split into pre-processing (performed by the input filter), analysis, and post-processing (by the output filter).
3. A single analysis driver with environment variables: Function evaluation is contained within one analysis driver, but it requires environment variables to be set before running.

4. Multiple analysis drivers: Drivers are run sequentially or concurrently (See the asynchronous keyword) and can have any of the above options as well.

For fork and system interfaces, the analysis_driver list contains the names of one or more executable programs or scripts taking parameters files as input and producing results files as output. The first field in each analysis driver string must be an executable program or script for Dakota to spawn to perform the function evaluation. Drivers support:

- One set of nested quotes, for arguments with spaces

- Dakota will define special environment variables DAKOTA_PARAMETERS_FILE and DAKOTA_RESULTS_FILE which can be used in the driver script.

- Variable definitions preceding the executable program or script, such as 'MY_VAR=2 run_analysis.sh' are no longer supported.

For details and examples see the Simulation Interface Components section of the Interfaces chapter of the User’s Manual; for details on the filters and environment variables, see the subsection on Syntax for Filter and Driver Strings.

Examples

1. analysis_drivers = 'run_simulation_part1.sh' 'run_simulation_part2.sh'

2. analysis_driver = 'run_simulation.sh -option "option 1"'

3. analysis_driver = 'simulation.exe -option value -dakota_params $DAKOTA_PARAMETERS_FILE -input sim.in -dakota_results_file $DAKOTA_RESULTS_FILE'

FAQ

Where will Dakota look for the analysis_driver? Dakota will locate analysis_driver programs first in (or relative to) the present working directory (".", the interface-analysis_drivers-fork-work_directory if used, otherwise the directory in which Dakota is started), then the directory from which Dakota is started, then using the system $PATH environment variable (Path% on Windows).

Where should the driver be located? When the driver is a script it is most commonly placed in the same directory as the Dakota input file. When using a work_directory, Dakota will also look for drivers in the specified working directory, so link_files or copy_files may specify the driver to get copied or linked into the work directory. When executable programs are used as drivers, they are often elsewhere on the filesystem. These can be specified using absolute paths, or by prepending the PATH environment variable so Dakota finds them.

What if Dakota fails to run my analysis_driver? Prepend the absolute location of the driver to the PATH environment variable before running Dakota, or specify an absolute path to the driver in the Dakota input file.
6.5. **INTERFACE**

- `analysis_components`

  Provide additional identifiers to analysis drivers.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional `analysis_components` specification allows the user to provide additional identifiers (e.g., mesh file names) for use by the analysis drivers. This is particularly useful when the same analysis driver is to be reused multiple times for slightly different analyses. The specific content within the strings is open-ended and can involve whatever syntax is convenient for a particular analysis driver. The number of analysis components $n_c$ should be an integer multiple of the number of drivers $n_d$, and the first $n_c/n_d$ component strings will be passed to the first driver, etc.

**input_filter**

- **Keywords Area**

- **interface**

- **analysis_drivers**

- **input_filter**

  Run a pre-processing script before the analysis drivers

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The optional `input_filter` and `output_filter` specifications provide the names of separate pre- and post-processing programs or scripts which assist in mapping Dakota parameters files into analysis input files and mapping analysis output files into Dakota results files, respectively.

If there is only a single analysis driver, then it is usually most convenient to combine pre- and post-processing requirements into a single analysis driver script and omit the separate input and output filters. However, in the case of multiple analysis drivers, the input and output filters provide a convenient location for non-repeated pre- and post-processing requirements. That is, input and output filters are only executed once per function evaluation, regardless of the number of analysis drivers, which makes them convenient locations for data processing operations that are shared among the analysis drivers.
output_filter

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- output_filter

Run a post-processing script after the analysis drivers

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The optional input_filter and output_filter specifications provide the names of separate pre- and post-processing programs or scripts which assist in mapping Dakota parameters files into analysis input files and mapping analysis output files into Dakota results files, respectively.

If there is only a single analysis driver, then it is usually most convenient to combine pre- and post-processing requirements into a single analysis driver script and omit the separate input and output filters. However, in the case of multiple analysis drivers, the input and output filters provide a convenient location for non-repeated pre- and post-processing requirements. That is, input and output filters are only executed once per function evaluation, regardless of the number of analysis drivers, which makes them convenient locations for data processing operations that are shared among the analysis drivers.

**system**

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system

(Not recommended) Launch analysis drivers with a system call

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>parameters_file</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify the name of the parameters file</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.5. INTERFACE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>results_file</th>
<th>Specify the name of the results file</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>allow-existing-results</td>
<td>Change how Dakota deals with existing results files</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>verbatim</td>
<td>Specify the command Dakota uses to launch analysis driver(s) and filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>aprepro</td>
<td>Write parameters files in APREPRO syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>file_tag</td>
<td>Tag each parameters &amp; results file name with the function evaluation number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>file_save</td>
<td>Keep the parameters &amp; results files after the analysis driver completes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>work_directory</td>
<td>Perform each function evaluation in a separate working directory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The system call interface is included in Dakota for portability and backward compatibility. Users are strongly encouraged to use the fork interface if possible, reverting to system only when necessary. To enable the system call interface, replace the fork keyword with system. All other keywords have identical meanings to those for the fork interface.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- fork

parameters_file

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
• parameters_file
  Specify the name of the parameters file

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The parameters file is used by Dakota to pass the parameter values to the analysis driver. The name of the file can be optionally specified using the `parameters_file` keyword.

If this is not specified, the default data transfer files are temporary files with system-generated names (e.g., `/usr/tmp/aaaa08861`).

**results_file**

• Keywords Area  
• interface  
• analysis_drivers  
• system  
• results_file

Specify the name of the results file

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The results file must be written by the analysis driver. It is read by Dakota to determine the response values for each function evaluation.

The name of the file can be optionally specified using the `results_file` keyword.

If this is not specified, the default data transfer files are temporary files with system-generated names (e.g., `/usr/tmp/aaaa08861`).

**allow_existing_results**

• Keywords Area  
• interface  
• analysis_drivers  
• system  
• allow_existing_results

Change how Dakota deals with existing results files
6.5. INTERFACE

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

By default Dakota will remove existing results files before invoking the analysis_driver to avoid problems created by stale files in the current directory. To override this behavior and not delete existing files, specify allow_existing_results.

verbatim

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- verbatim

Specify the command Dakota uses to launch analysis driver(s) and filters

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The typical commands that Dakota uses to launch analysis drivers are:

```
> analysis_driver parameters_file_name results_file_name
```

Dakota will automatically arrange the executables and file names.

If the analysis driver requires a different syntax, the entire command can be specified as the analysis driver and the verbatim keyword will tell Dakota to use this as the command.

Note, this will not allow the use of file_tag, because the exact command must be specified.

For additional information on invocation syntax, see the Interfaces chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"].

Examples

In the following example, the analysis_driver command is run without any edits from Dakota.

```
interface
analysis_driver = "matlab -nodesktop -nojvm -r 'MatlabDriver_hardcoded_filenames; exit' "
for
parameters_file 'params.in'
results_file 'results.out'
verbatim # this tells Dakota to fork the command exactly as written, instead of appending I/O filenames
```

The -r flag identifies the commands that will be run by matlab. The Matlab script has the parameters_file and results_file names hardcoded, so no additional arguments are required.
aprepro

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- aprepro

Write parameters files in APREPRO syntax

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file formats

Specification

Alias: dprepro

Argument(s): none

Description

The format of data in the parameters files can be modified for direct usage with the APREPRO pre-processing tool [[76] “Sjaardema, 1992”] using the aprepro specification.

Without this keyword, the parameters file are written in DPrePro format. DPrePro is a utility included with Dakota, described in the Users Manual [[4] ”Adams et al., 2010”].

file_tag

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- file_tag

Tag each parameters & results file name with the function evaluation number

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none
6.5. INTERFACE

Description

If this keyword is used, Dakota will append a period and the function evaluation number to the names of the parameter and results files.

For example, if the following is included in the interface section of the Dakota input:

```
parameters_file = params.in
results_file = results.out
file_tag
```

Then for the 3rd evaluation, Dakota will write `params.in.3`, and will expect `results.out.3` to be written by the analysis driver.

If this keyword is omitted, the default is no file tagging.

File tagging is most useful when multiple function evaluations are running simultaneously using files in a shared disk space. The analysis driver will be able to infer the function evaluation number from the file names.

Note that when the `file_save` keyword is used, Dakota renames parameters and results files, giving them tags, after execution of the analysis driver if they otherwise would be overwritten by the next evaluation.

**file_save**

- **Keywords Area**
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- file_save

Keep the parameters & results files after the analysis driver completes

Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

Description

If **file_save** is used, Dakota will not delete the parameters and results files after the function evaluation is completed.

The default behavior is NOT to save these files.

If **file_tag** is not specified and the saved files would be overwritten by a future evaluation, Dakota renames them after the analysis driver has run by tagging them with the evaluation number.

File saving is most useful when debugging the data communication between Dakota and the simulation.

**work_directory**

- **Keywords Area**
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- work_directory

Perform each function evaluation in a separate working directory
### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>named</td>
<td>The base name of the work directory created by Dakota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>directory_tag</td>
<td>Tag each work directory with the function evaluation number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>directory_save</td>
<td>Preserve the work directory after function evaluation completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>link_files</td>
<td>Paths to be linked into each working directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>copy_files</td>
<td>Files and directories to be copied into each working directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>replace</td>
<td>Overwrite existing files within a work directory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

When performing concurrent evaluations, it is typically necessary to cloister simulation input and output files in separate directories to avoid conflicts. When the `work_directory` feature is enabled, Dakota will create a directory for each evaluation, with optional tagging (`directory_tag`) and saving (`directory_save`), as with files, and execute the analysis driver from that working directory.

The directory may be `named` with a string, or left anonymous to use an automatically-generated directory in the system's temporary file space, e.g., `/tmp/dakota_work_c93vb71z/`. The optional `link_files` and `copy_files` keywords specify files or directories which should appear in each working directory.

When using `work_directory`, the `analysis_drivers` may be given by an absolute path, located in (or relative to) the startup directory alongside the Dakota input file, in the list of template files linked or copied, or on the `$PATH` (Path% on Windows).

- **named**
  - Keywords Area
  - interface
The base name of the work directory created by Dakota

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* STRING

**Description**

The `named` keyword is followed by a string, indicating the name of the work directory created by Dakota. If relative, the work directory will be created relative to the directory from which Dakota is invoked.

If `named` is not used, the default work directory is a temporary directory with a system-generated name (e.g., `/tmp/dakota_work_c93vb71z`).

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `directory.tag`
- `directory.save`

**Specification**

*Alias:* dir_tag

*Argument(s):* none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
If this keyword is used, Dakota will append a period and the function evaluation number to the work directory names.

If this keyword is omitted, the default is no tagging, and the same work directory will be used for ALL function evaluations. Tagging is most useful when multiple function evaluations are running simultaneously.

directory_save

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- work_directory
- directory_save

Preserve the work directory after function evaluation completion

Specification
Alias: dir_save
Argument(s): none

Description
By default, when a working directory is created by Dakota using the work_directory keyword, it is deleted after the evaluation is completed. The directory_save keyword will cause Dakota to leave (not delete) the directory.

link_files

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- work_directory
- link_files

Paths to be linked into each working directory

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST
6.5. INTERFACE

Description

Specifies the paths (files or directories) that will be symbolically linked from each working directory. Wildcards using * and ? are permitted. Linking is space-saving and useful for files not modified during the function evaluation. However, not all filesystems support linking, for example, support on Windows varies.

Examples

Specifying

```
link_files = 'siminput*.in' '/path/to/simdir1' 'simdir2/*'
```

will create copies

```
workdir/siminput*.in   # links to each of rundir / siminput*.in
workdir/simdir1/      # whole directory simdir1 linked
workdir/*/            # each entry in directory simdir2 linked
```

**copy_files**

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- system
- work_directory
- copy_files

Files and directories to be copied into each working directory

Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

Description

Specifies the files or directories that will be recursively copied into each working directory. Wildcards using * and ? are permitted.

Examples

Specifying

```
copy_files = 'siminput*.in' '/path/to/simdir1' 'simdir2/*'
```

will create copies

```
workdir/siminput*.in   # files rundir/siminput*.in copied
workdir/simdir1/      # whole directory simdir1 recursively copied
workdir/*/            # contents of directory simdir2 recursively copied
```

where rundir is the directory in which Dakota was started.
replace
• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis_drivers
• system
• work_directory
• replace

Overwrite existing files within a work directory

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

**Description**

By default, Dakota will not overwrite any existing files in a work directory. The `replace` keyword changes this behavior to force overwriting.

fork

• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis_drivers
• fork

Launch analysis drivers using fork command

**Specification**

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group         |               | Description   |
| Optional   | parameters_file |               | Specify the name of the parameters file |
| Optional   | results_file   |               | Specify the name of the results file |
6.5. INTERFACE

| Optional | allow_existing_results | Change how Dakota deals with existing results files |
| Optional | verbatim | Specify the command Dakota uses to launch analysis driver(s) and filters |
| Optional | aprepro | Write parameters files in APREPRO syntax |
| Optional | file_tag | Tag each parameters & results file name with the function evaluation number |
| Optional | file_save | Keep the parameters & results files after the analysis driver completes |
| Optional | work_directory | Perform each function evaluation in a separate working directory |

Description

The **fork** interface is the most common means by which Dakota launches a separate application analysis process.

The **fork** interface is recommended over **system** for most analysis drivers that are external to Dakota (i.e. not using the **direct** interface).

As explained in the Users Manual, the parameters and results file names are passed on the command line to the analysis driver(s). If input/output filters are specified, they will be run before/after the analysis drivers. The **verbatim** keyword is used to modify the default driver/filter commands.

For additional information on invocation syntax, see the Interfaces chapter of the Users Manual [4] “Adams et al., 2010”.

Examples

```plaintext
interface
  analysis_drivers = 'rosenbrock'
  fork
    parameters_file = 'params.in'
    results_file = 'results.out'
    file_tag
    file_save

parameters_file
  ● Keywords Area
```
• interface
• analysis_drivers
• fork
• parameters_file

Specify the name of the parameters file

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The parameters file is used by Dakota to pass the parameter values to the analysis driver. The name of the file can be optionally specified using the `parameters_file` keyword.

If this is not specified, the default data transfer files are temporary files with system-generated names (e.g., `/usr/tmp/aaaa08861`).

**results_file**

• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis_drivers
• fork
• results_file

Specify the name of the results file

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The results file must be written by the analysis driver. It is read by Dakota to determine the response values for each function evaluation.

The name of the file can be optionally specified using the `results_file` keyword.

If this is not specified, the default data transfer files are temporary files with system-generated names (e.g., `/usr/tmp/aaaa08861`).
6.5. INTERFACE

allow-existing-results

• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis-drivers
• fork
• allow-existing-results

Change how Dakota deals with existing results files

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

By default Dakota will remove existing results files before invoking the analysis_driver to avoid problems created by stale files in the current directory. To override this behavior and not delete existing files, specify allow-existing-results.

verbatim

• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis-drivers
• fork
• verbatim

Specify the command Dakota uses to launch analysis driver(s) and filters

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The typical commands that Dakota uses to launch analysis drivers are:

> analysis_driver parameters_file_name results_file_name

Dakota will automatically arrange the executables and file names.

If the analysis driver requires a different syntax, the entire command can be specified as the analysis driver and the verbatim keyword will tell Dakota to use this as the command.

Note, this will not allow the use of file_tag, because the exact command must be specified.

For additional information on invocation syntax, see the Interfaces chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"].
Examples
In the following example, the analysis_driver command is run without any edits from Dakota.

```plaintext
interface
    analysis_driver = "matlab -nodesktop -nojvm -r 'MatlabDriver_hardcoded_filenames; exit' "
    fork
        parameters_file 'params.in'
        results_file 'results.out'
        verbatim # this tells Dakota to fork the command exactly as written, instead of appending I/O filenames
```

The -r flag identifies the commands that will be run by matlab. The Matlab script has the parameters_file and results_file names hardcoded, so no additional arguments are required.

aprepro
- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- aprepro

Write parameters files in APREPRO syntax

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
- file_formats

Specification
Alias: dprepro
Argument(s): none

Description
The format of data in the parameters files can be modified for direct usage with the APREPRO pre-processing tool [[76] "Sjaardema, 1992"] using the aprepro specification.

Without this keyword, the parameters file are written in DPrePro format. DPrePro is a utility included with Dakota, described in the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"].

file_tag
- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- file_tag

Tag each parameters & results file name with the function evaluation number
6.5. INTERFACE

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

If this keyword is used, Dakota will append a period and the function evaluation number to the names of the parameter and results files.

For example, if the following is included in the interface section of the Dakota input:

```plaintext
parameters_file = params.in
results_file = results.out
file_tag
```

Then for the 3rd evaluation, Dakota will write `params.in.3`, and will expect `results.out.3` to be written by the analysis driver.

If this keyword is omitted, the default is no file tagging.

File tagging is most useful when multiple function evaluations are running simultaneously using files in a shared disk space. The analysis driver will be able to infer the function evaluation number from the file names. Note that when the file_save keyword is used, Dakota renames parameters and results files, giving them tags, after execution of the analysis driver if they otherwise would be overwritten by the next evaluation.

file_save

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- file_save

Keep the parameters & results files after the analysis driver completes

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

If file_save is used, Dakota will not delete the parameters and results files after the function evaluation is completed.

The default behavior is NOT to save these files.

If file_tag is not specified and the saved files would be overwritten by a future evaluation, Dakota renames them after the analysis driver has run by tagging them with the evaluation number.

File saving is most useful when debugging the data communication between Dakota and the simulation.
Perform each function evaluation in a separate working directory

**Specification**

Alias: none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>named</td>
<td>The base name of the work directory created by Dakota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>directory_tag</td>
<td>Tag each work directory with the function evaluation number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>directory_save</td>
<td>Preserve the work directory after function evaluation completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>link_files</td>
<td>Paths to be linked into each working directory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>copy_files</td>
<td>Files and directories to be copied into each working directory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

When performing concurrent evaluations, it is typically necessary to cloister simulation input and output files in separate directories to avoid conflicts. When the `work_directory` feature is enabled, Dakota will create a directory for each evaluation, with optional tagging (directory_tag) and saving (directory_save), as with files, and execute the analysis driver from that working directory.

The directory may be named with a string, or left anonymous to use an automatically-generated directory in the system’s temporary file space, e.g., /tmp/dakota_work_c93vb71z/. The optional link_files and copy_files keywords specify files or directories which should appear in each working directory.

When using work_directory, the analysis_drivers may be given by an absolute path, located in (or relative to) the startup directory alongside the Dakota input file, in the list of template files linked or copied, or on the $PATH (Path% on Windows).

named

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- work_directory
- named

The base name of the work directory created by Dakota

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

The named keyword is followed by a string, indicating the name of the work directory created by Dakota. If relative, the work directory will be created relative to the directory from which Dakota is invoked.

If named is not used, the default work directory is a temporary directory with a system-generated name (e.g., /tmp/dakota_work_c93vb71z/).

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- directory_tag
- directory_save
directory_tag

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- work_directory
- directory_tag

Tag each work directory with the function evaluation number

**Specification**

**Alias:** dir_tag

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

If this keyword is used, Dakota will append a period and the function evaluation number to the work directory names.

If this keyword is omitted, the default is no tagging, and the same work directory will be used for ALL function evaluations. Tagging is most useful when multiple function evaluations are running simultaneously.

directory_save

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- work_directory
- directory_save

Preserve the work directory after function evaluation completion

**Specification**

**Alias:** dir_save

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

By default, when a working directory is created by Dakota using the work_directory keyword, it is deleted after the evaluation is completed. The directory.save keyword will cause Dakota to leave (not delete) the directory.
6.5. INTERFACE

link_files

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- work_directory
- link_files

Paths to be linked into each working directory

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

Specifies the paths (files or directories) that will be symbolically linked from each working directory. Wildcards using * and ? are permitted. Linking is space-saving and useful for files not modified during the function evaluation. However, not all filesystems support linking, for example, support on Windows varies.

Examples

Specifying

```plaintext
link_files = 'siminput*.in' '/path/to/simdir1' 'simdir2/*'
```

will create copies

```plaintext
workdir/siminput*.in   # links to each of rundir / siminput*.in
workdir/simdir1/      # whole directory simdir1 linked
workdir/*             # each entry in directory simdir2 linked
```

copy_files

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- fork
- work_directory
- copy_files

Files and directories to be copied into each working directory
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

Specifies the files or directories that will be recursively copied into each working directory. Wildcards using * and ? are permitted.

**Examples**

Specifying

\[
\text{copy\_files = 'siminput*.in' '/path/to/simdir1' 'simdir2/*'}
\]

will create copies

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{workdir/siminput*.in} & \quad \# \text{files rundir/siminput*.in copied} \\
\text{workdir/simdir1/} & \quad \# \text{whole directory simdir1 recursively copied} \\
\text{workdir/*} & \quad \# \text{contents of directory simdir2 recursively copied}
\end{align*}
\]

where rundir is the directory in which Dakota was started.

- replace
  - **Keywords Area**
  - **interface**
  - **analysis_drivers**
  - **fork**
  - **work_directory**
  - **replace**

Overwrite existing files within a work directory

**Specification**

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

By default, Dakota will not overwrite any existing files in a work directory. The replace keyword changes this behavior to force overwriting.
6.5. INTERFACE

direct
- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- direct

Run analysis drivers that are linked-to or compiled-with Dakota

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional   | Group          | Description   | Description   |
| processors | per_analysis  | processors_per-analysis | Specify the number of processors per analysis when Dakota is run in parallel |

Description

The primary use of the direct interface is to invoke internal test functions that perform parameter to response mappings for simple functions as inexpensively as possible. These problems are compiled directly into the Dakota executable as part of the direct function interface class and are used for algorithm testing.

Dakota also supports direct interfaces to a few select simulation codes. One example is ModelCenter, a commercial simulation management framework from Phoenix Integration. To utilize this interface, a user must first define the simulation specifics within a ModelCenter session and then save these definitions to a ModelCenter configuration file. The analysis_components specification provides the means to communicate this configuration file to Dakota’s ModelCenter interface.

Examples

The rosenbrock function is available as an executable, which can be launched with fork, and is also compiled with Dakota. The internal version can be launched with:

```bash
interface
analysis_drivers = 'rosenbrock'
direct
```

processors_per_analysis
- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- direct
• processors_per_analysis

Specify the number of processors per analysis when Dakota is run in parallel

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

For direct function interfaces, `processors_per_analysis` is an additional optional setting within the required group which can be used to specify multiprocessor analysis partitions. As with the `evaluation_servers`, `analysis_servers`, `evaluation_self_scheduling`, `evaluation_static_scheduling`, `analysis_self_scheduling`, and `analysis_static_scheduling` specifications, `processors_per_analysis` provides a means for the user to override the automatic parallel configuration (refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for the number of processors used for each analysis partition. Note that if both `analysis_servers` and `processors_per_analysis` are specified and they are not in agreement, then `analysis_servers` takes precedence.

**matlab**

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- matlab

Run Matlab with a direct interface - requires special Dakota build

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Dakota supports library-linked interfaces to Matlab, Scilab, and Python scientific computation software, but they must be explicitly enabled when compiling Dakota from source. First consult the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for discussion and examples.

Contact the Dakota users mailing list for assistance building and using Dakota with these interfaces.

In all these interfaces, the `analysis_driver` is used to specify a Matlab, Scilab, or Python file which implements the parameter to response mapping.
6.5. INTERFACE

python
  • Keywords Area
  • interface
  • analysis_drivers
  • python

Run Python with a direct interface - requires special Dakota build

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>numpy</td>
<td>Enable the use of numpy in Dakota’s Python interface</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Dakota supports library-linked interfaces to Matlab, Scilab, and Python scientific computation software, but they must be explicitly enabled when compiling Dakota from source. First consult the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for discussion and examples.

Contact the Dakota users mailing list for assistance building and using Dakota with these interfaces.

In all these interfaces, the analysis_driver is used to specify a Matlab, Scilab, or Python file which implements the parameter to response mapping.

numpy

  • Keywords Area
  • interface
  • analysis_drivers
  • python
  • numpy

Enable the use of numpy in Dakota’s Python interface

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

When the numpy keyword is used, Dakota expects responses in the form of a Python dictionary of numpy arrays. See the example in examples/linked_interfaces/Python.
scilab

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- scilab

Run Scilab with a direct interface - requires special Dakota build

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Dakota supports library-linked interfaces to Matlab, Scilab, and Python scientific computation software, but they must be explicitly enabled when compiling Dakota from source. First consult the Users Manual [[[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for discussion and examples.

Contact the Dakota users mailing list for assistance building and using Dakota with these interfaces.

In all these interfaces, the `analysis_driver` is used to specify a Matlab, Scilab, or Python file which implements the parameter to response mapping.

grid

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- grid

Experimental capability

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

For grid interfaces, no additional specifications are used at this time.

This capability has been used for interfaces with IDEA and JAVASpaces in the past and is currently a placeholder for future work with Condor and/or Globus services. It is not currently operational.
6.5. INTERFACE

failure_capture

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- failure_capture

Determine how Dakota responds to analysis driver failure

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>abort</td>
<td>(Default) Abort the Dakota job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>retry</td>
<td>Rerun failed analyses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recover</td>
<td>Substitute dummy values for the responses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continuation</td>
<td>Cause Dakota to step toward the failed &quot;target&quot; simulation from a nearby successful &quot;source&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Dakota can deal with analysis failure in a few ways.

The first step is that Dakota must detect analysis failure. Importantly, Dakota always expects a results file to be written by the analysis driver, even when a failure has occurred. If the file does not exist when the analysis driver exits, a Dakota error results, causing Dakota itself to terminate. The analysis driver communicates an analysis failure to Dakota by writing a results file beginning with the word "fail", which is not case sensitive. Everything after "fail" is ignored.

Once Dakota detects analysis failure, the failure can be mitigated in four ways:

- abort (the default)
- retry
- recover
- continuation

Refer to the Simulation Code Failure Capturing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.
**abort**
- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **analysis_drivers**
- **failure_capture**
- **abort**

(Default) Abort the Dakota job

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

`abort` will stop the Dakota job, as well as any other running analysis drivers.

**retry**
- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **analysis_drivers**
- **failure_capture**
- **retry**

Rerun failed analyses

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

The `retry` selection supports an integer input for specifying a limit on retries.

**recover**
- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **analysis_drivers**
- **failure_capture**
- **recover**

Substitute dummy values for the responses
6.5. INTERFACE

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The recover selection supports a list of reals for specifying the dummy function values (only zeroth order information is supported) to use for the failed function evaluation.

continuation

• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis_drivers
• failure_capture
• continuation

Cause Dakota to step toward the failed "target" simulation from a nearby successful "source"

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
When failure_capture continuation is enabled and an evaluation fails, then Dakota will attempt to march incrementally from a previous good evaluation (the "source") toward the failing one (the "target"). Further details about the algorithm employed by Dakota are supplied in the User’s Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"].

deactivate

• Keywords Area
• interface
• analysis_drivers
• deactivate

Deactivate Dakota features to simplify interface development, increase execution speed, or reduce memory and disk requirements

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
Description

The optional deactivate specification block includes three features which a user may deactivate in order to simplify interface development, increase execution speed, and/or reduce memory and disk requirements:

- **Active set vector (ASV) control:** deactivation of this feature using a deactivate active_set_vector specification allows the user to turn off any variability in ASV values so that active set logic can be omitted in the user’s simulation interface. This option trades some efficiency for simplicity in interface development. The default behavior is to request the minimum amount of data required by an algorithm at any given time, which implies that the ASV values may vary from one function evaluation to the next. Since the user’s interface must return the data set requested by the ASV values, this interface must contain additional logic to account for any variations in ASV content. Deactivating this ASV control causes Dakota to always request a “full” data set (the full function, gradient, and Hessian data that is available from the interface as specified in the responses specification) on each function evaluation. For example, if ASV control has been deactivated and the responses section specifies four response functions, analytic gradients, and no Hessians, then the ASV on every function evaluation will be \{3 3 3 3\}, regardless of what subset of this data is currently needed. While wasteful of computations in many instances, this simplifies the interface and allows the user to return the same data set on every evaluation. Conversely, if ASV control is active (the default behavior), then the ASV requests in this example might vary from \{1 1 1 1\} to \{2 0 0 2\}, etc., according to the specific data needed on a particular function evaluation. This will require the user’s interface to read the ASV requests and perform the appropriate logic in conditionally returning only the data requested. In general, the default ASV behavior is recommended for the sake of computational efficiency, unless interface development time is a critical concern. Note that in both cases, the data returned to Dakota from the user’s interface must match the ASV passed in, or else a response recovery error will result. However, when the ASV control is deactivated, the ASV values are invariant and need not be checked on every evaluation. **Note:** Deactivating the ASV control can have a positive effect on load balancing for parallel Dakota executions. Thus, there is significant overlap in this ASV control option with speculative gradients. There is also overlap with the mode override approach used with certain optimizers to combine individual value, gradient, and Hessian requests.

- **Function evaluation cache:** deactivation of this feature using a deactivate evaluation_cache specification allows the user to avoid retention of the complete function evaluation history in memory. This can be important for reducing memory requirements in large-scale applications (i.e., applications with a large number of variables or response functions) and for eliminating the overhead of searching for duplicates within the function evaluation cache prior to each new function evaluation (e.g., for improving speed in problems with 1000’s of inexpensive function evaluations or for eliminating overhead when performing
However, the downside is that unnecessary computations may be performed since duplication in function evaluation requests may not be detected. For this reason, this option is not recommended when function evaluations are costly. Note: duplication detection within Dakota can be deactivated, but duplication detection features within specific optimizers may still be active.

- **Strict Cache Equality:** By default, Dakota’s evaluation cache and restart capabilities are based on strict binary equality. This provides a performance advantage, as it permits a hash-based data structure to be used to search the evaluation cache. However, deactivating strict equality may prevent cache misses, which can occur when attempting to use a restart file on a machine different from the one on which it was generated.

- **Restart file:** Deactivation of this feature using a `deactivate restart_file` specification allows the user to eliminate the output of each new function evaluation to the binary restart file. This can increase speed and reduce disk storage requirements, but at the expense of a loss in the ability to recover and continue a run that terminates prematurely (e.g., due to a system crash or network problem). This option is not recommended when function evaluations are costly or prone to failure. Please note that using the `deactivate restart_file` specification will result in a zero length restart file with the default name `dakota.rst`.

These three features may be deactivated independently and concurrently.

### active_set_vector
- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **analysis_drivers**
- **deactivate**
- **active_set_vector**

Deactivate the Active Set Vector

### Specification
**Alias:** none
**Argument(s):** none

### Description
Described on parent page

### evaluation_cache
- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **analysis_drivers**
- **deactivate**
- **evaluation_cache**

Do not retain function evaluation history in memory
Specification
Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description
Described on parent page

strict_cache_equality

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- deactivate
- strict_cache_equality

Do not require strict cache equality when finding duplicates

Specification
Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>cache_tolerance</td>
<td>Specify tolerance when identifying duplicate function evaluations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Described on parent page

cache_tolerance

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- deactivate
- strict_cache_equality
- cache_tolerance

Specify tolerance when identifying duplicate function evaluations
6.5. INTERFACE

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): REAL

Description
Described on parent page

restart_file

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_drivers
- deactivate
- restart_file

Deactivate writing to the restart file

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Described on parent page

6.5.4 asynchronous

- Keywords Area
- interface
- asynchronous

Specify analysis driver concurrency, when Dakota is run in serial

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
### Description

The optional asynchronous keyword specifies use of asynchronous protocols (i.e., background system calls, nonblocking forks, POSIX threads) when evaluations or analyses are invoked. The `evaluation_concurrency` and `analysis_concurrency` specifications serve a dual purpose:

- When running Dakota on a single processor in asynchronous mode, the default concurrency of evaluations and analyses is all concurrency that is available. The `evaluation_concurrency` and `analysis_concurrency` specifications can be used to limit this concurrency in order to avoid machine overload or usage policy violation.

- When running Dakota on multiple processors in message passing mode, the default concurrency of evaluations and analyses on each of the servers is one (i.e., the parallelism is exclusively that of the message passing). With the `evaluation_concurrency` and `analysis_concurrency` specifications, a hybrid parallelism can be selected through combination of message passing parallelism with asynchronous parallelism on each server.

### evaluation_concurrency

- **Keywords Area**

- **interface**

- **asynchronous**

- **evaluation_concurrency**

Determine how many concurrent evaluations Dakota will schedule.

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **concurrency_and_parallelism**
6.5. INTERFACE

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

When asynchronous execution is enabled, the default behavior is to launch all available evaluations simultaneously. The evaluation concurrency keyword can be used to limit the number of concurrent evaluations.

local_evaluation_scheduling

- Keywords Area
  - interface
  - asynchronous
  - local_evaluation_scheduling

Control how local asynchronous jobs are scheduled

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Description of Group Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword dynamic</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description Static local scheduling (tiled)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>static</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

When performing asynchronous local evaluations, the local_evaluation_scheduling keyword controls how new evaluation jobs are dispatched when one completes.

The two options are:

- dynamic
- static
If the local_evaluation_scheduling is specified as dynamic (the default), each completed evaluation will be replaced by the next in the local evaluation queue.

If local_evaluation_scheduling is specified as static, each completed evaluation will be replaced by an evaluation number that is congruent modulo the evaluation_concurrency. This is helpful for relative node scheduling as described in Dakota/examples/parallelism. For example, assuming only asynchronous local concurrency (no MPI), if the local concurrency is 6 and job 2 completes, it will be replaced with job 8.

For the case of hybrid parallelism, static local scheduling results in evaluation replacements that are modulo the total capacity, defined as the product of the evaluation concurrency and the number of evaluation servers. Both of these cases can result in idle processors if runtimes are non-uniform, so the default dynamic scheduling is preferred when relative node scheduling is not required.

dynamic
- Keywords Area
- interface
- asynchronous
- local_evaluation_scheduling
- dynamic
  Dynamic local scheduling (sequential)

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
If the local_evaluation_scheduling is specified as dynamic (the default), each completed evaluation will be replaced by the next in the local evaluation queue.

static
- Keywords Area
- interface
- asynchronous
- local_evaluation_scheduling
- static
  Static local scheduling (tiled)

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
6.5. INTERFACE

Description
If local evaluation scheduling is specified as static, each completed evaluation will be replaced by an evaluation number that is congruent modulo the evaluation concurrency. This is helpful for relative node scheduling as described in Dakota/examples/parallelism. For example, assuming only asynchronous local concurrency (no M-P), if the local concurrency is 6 and job 2 completes, it will be replaced with job 8.

For the case of hybrid parallelism, static local scheduling results in evaluation replacements that are modulo the total capacity, defined as the product of the evaluation concurrency and the number of evaluation servers. Both of these cases can result in idle processors if runtimes are non-uniform, so the default dynamic scheduling is preferred when relative node scheduling is not required.

analysis_concurrency

• Keywords Area
• interface
• asynchronous
• analysis_concurrency

Limit the number of analysis drivers within an evaluation that Dakota will schedule.

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
• concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
When asynchronous execution is enabled and each evaluation involves multiple analysis drivers, then the default behavior is to launch all drivers simultaneously. The analysis_concurrency keyword can be used to limit the number of concurrently run drivers.

6.5.5 evaluation_servers

• Keywords Area
• interface
• evaluation_servers

Specify the number of evaluation servers when Dakota is run in parallel.

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:
• concurrency_and_parallelism
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

The optional `evaluation_servers` specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of evaluation servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the evaluation parallelism level. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] ”Adams et al., 2010”] for additional information.

6.5.6 evaluation_scheduling

- Keywords Area
- interface
- evaluation_scheduling

Specify the scheduling of concurrent evaluations when Dakota is run in parallel

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>master</td>
<td>Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel evaluation scheduling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>peer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify a peer partition for parallel evaluation scheduling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

When Dakota is run in parallel, the partition type and scheduling for the evaluation servers are determined automatically. If these settings are undesirable, they may be overridden by the user using the `evaluation_scheduling` keyword.

The partition type and scheduling are

- master
  - Keywords Area
  - interface
  - evaluation_scheduling
• **master**

Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel evaluation scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a dedicated master partition. In a dedicated master partition, one processor (the "master") dynamically schedules work on the evaluation servers. This reduces the number of processors available to create servers by 1.

• **peer**

Specify a peer partition for parallel evaluation scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

• concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>dynamic</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify dynamic scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Description

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a peer partition. In a peer partition, all processors are available to be assigned to evaluation servers. The scheduling, static or dynamic, must also be specified.

#### dynamic

- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **evaluation_scheduling**
- **peer**
- **dynamic**

Specify dynamic scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

### Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

### Description

In dynamic scheduling, evaluations are assigned to servers as earlier evaluations complete. Dynamic scheduling is advantageous when evaluations are of uneven duration.

#### static

- **Keywords Area**
- **interface**
- **evaluation_scheduling**
- **peer**
- **static**

Specify static scheduling in a peer partition when Dakota is run in parallel.
6.5. INTERFACE

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
In static scheduling, all available evaluations are assigned to servers in a predetermined fashion. Each completed evaluation is replaced with one congruent modulo the evaluation concurrency. For example, with 6 servers, eval number 2 will be replaced by eval number 8.

6.5.7 processors_per_evaluation

- Keywords Area
- interface
- processors_per_evaluation

Specify the number of processors per evaluation server when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The optional processors_per_evaluation specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of processors in each evaluation server. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired server size at the evaluation parallelism level. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] “Adams et al., 2010”] for additional information.

6.5.8 analysis_servers

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_servers

Specify the number of analysis servers when Dakota is run in parallel
Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGER

Description
The optional analysis_servers specification supports user override of the automatic parallel configuration for the number of analysis servers. That is, if the automatic configuration is undesirable for some reason, the user can enforce a desired number of partitions at the analysis parallelism level. Refer to ParallelLibrary and the Parallel Computing chapter of the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"] for additional information.

6.5.9 analysis_scheduling

- Keywords Area
- interface
- analysis_scheduling

Specify the scheduling of concurrent analyses when Dakota is run in parallel

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose One</td>
<td>master</td>
<td>master</td>
<td>Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel analysis scheduling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

When Dakota is run in parallel, the partition type for the analysis servers is determined automatically. If this setting is undesirable, it may be overridden by the user using the `analysis_scheduling` keyword. The partition type and scheduling are

**master**

- **Keywords Area**
- interface
- analysis_scheduling
- master

Specify a dedicated master partition for parallel analysis scheduling

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- concurrency_and_parallelism

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a dedicated master partition. In a dedicated master partition, one processor (the "master") dynamically schedules work on the analysis servers. This reduces the number of processors available to create servers by 1.

**peer**

- **Keywords Area**
- interface
- analysis_scheduling
- peer

Specify a peer partition for parallel analysis scheduling
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

  • concurrency_and_parallelism

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
This option overrides the Dakota parallel automatic configuration, forcing the use of a peer partition. In a peer partition, all processors are available to be assigned to analysis servers. Note that unlike the case of evaluation_scheduling, it is not possible to specify static or dynamic.

6.6 responses

  • Keywords Area
  • responses

Description of the model output data returned to Dakota upon evaluation of an interface.

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

  • block

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>id_responses</td>
<td></td>
<td>Name the response block, helpful when there are multiple</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 6.6. RESPONSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Required (Choose One)</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th>Group 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>descriptors</td>
<td>objective_functions</td>
<td>calibration_terms</td>
<td>response_functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labels for the responses</td>
<td>Response type suitable for optimization</td>
<td>Response type suitable for calibration or least squares</td>
<td>Generic response type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td>no_gradients</td>
<td>analytic_gradients</td>
<td>mixed_gradients</td>
<td>numerical_gradients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gradients will not be used</td>
<td>Analysis driver will return gradients</td>
<td>Gradients are needed and will be obtained from a mix of numerical and analytic sources</td>
<td>Gradients are needed and will be approximated by finite differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>numerical_hessians</td>
<td>quasi_hessians</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hessians are needed and will be approximated by secant updates (BFGS or SR1) from a series of gradient evaluations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The responses specification in a Dakota input file indicates the types of data that can be returned by an interface when invoked during Dakota’s execution. The specification includes three groups and two optional keywords.

**Group 1** is related to the type and number of responses expected by Dakota. The specification must be one of three types:

1. objective and constraint functions
2. calibration (least squares) terms and constraint functions
3. a generic response functions specification.

These correspond to optimization, least squares, and uncertainty quantification methods, respectively. The response type chosen from Group 1 should be consistent with the iterative technique called for in the method specification. Certain general-purpose iterative techniques, such as parameter studies and design of experiments methods, can be used with any of these data sets.

Each type of response has additional required and optional keywords.

**Group 2** is related to the availability of first derivatives (gradient vectors) for the response functions. The gradient specification also links back to the iterative method used. Gradients commonly are needed when the iterative study involves gradient-based optimization, local reliability analysis for uncertainty quantification, or local sensitivity analysis. They can optionally be used to build some types of surrogate models.

**Group 3** is related to the availability of second derivatives (Hessian matrices) for the response functions. Hessian availability for the response functions is similar to the gradient availability specifications, with the addition of support for ”quasi-Hessians”. The Hessian specification also links back to the iterative method in use; Hessians commonly would be used in gradient-based optimization by full Newton methods or in reliability analysis with second-order limit state approximations or second-order probability integrations.

**Examples**

Several examples follow. The first example shows an optimization data set containing an objective function and two nonlinear inequality constraints. These three functions have analytic gradient availability and no Hessian availability.

```
responses
  objective_functions = 1
  nonlinear_inequality_constraints = 2
  analytic_gradients
  no_hessians
```
The next example shows a typical specification for a calibration data set. The six residual functions will have numerical gradients computed using the dakota finite differencing routine with central differences of 0.1% (plus/minus delta relative to current variables value = .001*value).

```plaintext
responses
calibration_terms = 6
numerical_gradients
  method_source dakota
  interval_type central
  fd_gradient_step_size = .001
no_hessians
```

The last example shows a generic specification that could be used with a nondeterministic sampling iterator. The three response functions have no gradient or Hessian availability; therefore, only function values will be used by the iterator.

```plaintext
responses
  response_functions = 3
  no_gradients
  no_hessians
```

Parameter study and design of experiments iterators are not restricted in terms of the response data sets which may be catalogued; they may be used with any of the function specification examples shown above.

**Theory**

Responses specify the total data set that is available for use by the method over the course of iteration. This is distinguished from the data subset described by an active set vector (see Dakota File Data Formats in the Users Manual [Adams et al., 2010]) indicating the particular subset of the response data needed for a particular function evaluation. Thus, the responses specification is a broad description of the data to be used during a study whereas the active set vector indicates the subset currently needed.

**6.6.1 id_responses**

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **id_responses**

Name the response block, helpful when there are multiple

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **block_identifier**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

**Description**

The optional block identifier `id_responses` specifies a string to uniquely identify a particular responses specification (typically used when there are multiple present). A model can then specify or point to this response set by specifying the same string in its `responses_pointer` specification. For example, a model whose specification contains `responses_pointer = 'R1'` will use a responses set with `id_responses = 'R1'`.

If the `id_responses` specification is omitted, a particular responses specification will be used by a model only if that model omits specifying a `responses_pointer` and if the responses set was the last set parsed (or is the only set parsed). In common practice, if only one responses set exists, then `id_responses` can be safely omitted from the responses specification and `responses_pointer` can be omitted from the model specification(s), since there is no potential for ambiguity in this case.

### 6.6.2 descriptors

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **descriptors**

Labels for the responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** `response_descriptors`  
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The optional response labels specification `descriptors` is a list of strings which will be printed in Dakota output to identify the values for particular response functions.

Note that the ordering of responses and descriptors in the input currently must match the order of the values returned to Dakota in a results file. See the example below.

The default descriptor strings use a root string plus a numeric identifier. This root string is

- "obj_fn" for objective functions
- "least_sq_term" for least squares terms
- "response_fn" for generic response functions
- "nln_ineq_con" for nonlinear inequality constraints
- "nln_eq_con" for nonlinear equality constraints

**Examples**

Note that the descriptors currently must match the order of the values in the results file; they are not used to validate the returned data. For example, if the `responses` block contains:

```
c descriptors 'x1' 'x2' 'x3'
```

and the results file contains
6.6. RESPONSES

4 x1
5 x3
6 x2

Then Dakota will understand the returned data to be:

x1 = 4
x2 = 5
x3 = 6

6.6.3 objective_functions

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions

Response type suitable for optimization

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_objective_functions

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>sense</td>
<td></td>
<td>Whether to minimize or maximize each objective function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>primary_scale_types</td>
<td></td>
<td>Choose a scaling type for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>primary_scales</td>
<td></td>
<td>Supply a characteristic value to scale each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>weights</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify weights for each objective function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>nonlinear_inequality_constraints</td>
<td></td>
<td>Group to specify nonlinear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>nonlinear_equality_constraints</th>
<th>Group to specify nonlinear equality constraints Number of scalar objective functions Number of field objective functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>scalar_objectives</td>
<td>Number of scalar objective functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>field_objectives</td>
<td>Number of field objective functions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The `objective_functions` keyword specifies the number of objective functions returned to Dakota. The number of objective functions must be 1 or greater.

**Constraints**

The keywords `nonlinear_inequality_constraints`, and `nonlinear_equality_constraints` specify the number of nonlinear inequality constraints, and nonlinear equality constraints, respectively. When interfacing to external applications, the responses must be returned to Dakota in this order: objective functions, nonlinear_inequality_constraints, then nonlinear_equality_constraints.

Any linear constraints present in an application need only be input to an optimizer at start up and do not need to be part of the data returned on every function evaluation. These are therefore specified in the `method` block.

Bounds on the design variables are specified in the `variables` block.

**Optional Keywords**

The optional keywords relate to scaling the objective functions (for better numerical results), formulating the problem as minimization or maximization, and dealing with multiple objective functions. If scaling is used, it is applied before multi-objective weighted sums are formed.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `calibration_terms`
- `response_functions`
- `method`
- `variables`

### Sense

- `Keywords Area`
- `responses`
- `objective_functions`
- `sense`

Whether to minimize or maximize each objective function

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** `STRINGLIST`
6.6. RESPONSES

**Description**

The `sense` keyword is used to declare whether each objective function should be minimized or maximized. The argument options are:

- "minimization"
- "maximization" These can be abbreviated to "min" and "max".

The number of strings should either be equal to the number of objective functions, or one. If a single string is specified it will apply to each objective function.

**primary_scale_types**

- **Keywords Area**
- responses
- objective_functions
- primary_scale_types

Choose a scaling type for each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** objective_function_scale_types  
**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

The `primary_scale_types` keyword specifies one of number of primary functions strings indicating the scaling type for each response value in methods that support scaling, when scaling is enabled.

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword. Note that primary response functions (objective, calibration, or response functions) cannot be automatically scaled due to lack of bounds, so valid scale types are 'none' 'value' and 'log'.

**primary_scales**

- **Keywords Area**
- responses
- objective_functions
- primary_scales

Supply a characteristic value to scale each response

**Specification**

**Alias:** objective_function_scales  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description
Each entry in primary_scales is a user-specified nonzero characteristic value to scale each response. The argument may be of length 1 or the number of primary response functions. See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

weights

• Keywords Area
• responses
• objective_functions
• weights

Specify weights for each objective function

Specification
Alias: multi_objective_weights
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
If the number of objective functions is greater than 1, then a weights specification provides a simple weighted-sum approach to combining multiple objectives into a single objective:

\[ f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i f_i \]

If weights are not specified, then each response is given equal weighting:

\[ f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{f_i}{n} \]

where, in both of these cases, a "minimization" sense will retain a positive weighting for a minimizer and a "maximization" sense will apply a negative weighting.

nonlinear_inequality_constraints

• Keywords Area
• responses
• objective_functions
• nonlinear_inequality_constraints

Group to specify nonlinear inequality constraints

Specification
Alias: num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints
Argument(s): INTEGER
### Description

The `lower_bounds` and `upper_bounds` specifications provide the lower and upper bounds for 2-sided nonlinear inequalities of the form

\[ g_l \leq g(x) \leq g_u \]

The defaults for the inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ g(x) \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user constraint bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than `+bigRealBoundSize` (i.e., +30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as `+infinity` and any lower bound values less than `-bigRealBoundSize` are treated as `-infinity`. This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since `-DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize`). The same approach is used for nonexistent linear inequality bounds and for nonexistent design variable bounds.

The `scale_types` and `scales` keywords are related to scaling of \( g(x) \). See the `scaling` page for details.

### lower_bounds

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **objective_functions**
- **nonlinear_inequality_constraints**
- **lower_bounds**

Specify minimum values

### Specification

**Alias**: `nonlinear_inequality_lower_bounds`

**Argument(s)**: `REALLIST`

### Description

Specify minimum values
upper_bounds
- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_inequality_constraints
- upper_bounds
  Specify maximum values

Specification

Alias: nonlinear_inequality_upper_bounds
  Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

Specify maximum values

scale_types
- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_inequality_constraints
- scale_types
  Choose how each constraint is scaled

Specification

Alias: nonlinear_inequality_scale_types
  Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

scales
- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_inequality_constraints
- scales
  Characteristic values for scaling
6.6. RESPONSES

**Specification**

**Alias:** nonlinear_inequality_scales  
**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

**nonlinear_inequality_constraints**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_inequality_constraints

Group to specify nonlinear equality constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints  
**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<p>| Required/- | Description of | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>targets</td>
<td>Target values for the nonlinear equality constraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>scale_types</td>
<td>Choose how each constraint is scaled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>scales</td>
<td>Characteristic values for scaling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The targets specification provides the targets for nonlinear equalities of the form

\[ g(x) = g_t \]

and the defaults for the equality targets enforce a value of 0. for each constraint

\[ g(x) = 0.0 \]

The scale_types and scales keywords are related to scaling of \( g(x) \). See the scaling page for details.
targets

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_equality_constraints
- targets

Target values for the nonlinear equality constraint

**Specification**

**Alias:** nonlinear_equality_targets

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

The targets specification provides the targets for nonlinear equalities of the form

\[ g(x) = g_t \]

and the defaults for the equality targets enforce a value of 0.0 for each constraint:

\[ g(x) = 0.0 \]

scale_types

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_equality_constraints
- scale_types

Choose how each constraint is scaled

**Specification**

**Alias:** nonlinear_equality_scale_types

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.
6.6. RESPONSES

scales

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- nonlinear_equality_constraints
- scales

Characteristic values for scaling

**Specification**

**Alias:** nonlinear_equality_scales

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

**scalar_objectives**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- scalar_objectives

Number of scalar objective functions

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_scalar_objectives

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

This keyword describes the number of scalar objective functions. It is meant to be used in conjunction with field_objectives, which describes the number of field objectives functions. The total number of objective functions, both scalar and field, is given by objective_functions. If only scalar objective functions are specified, it is not necessary to specify the number of scalar terms explicitly: one can simply say objective_functions = 5 and get 5 scalar objectives. However, if there are three scalar objectives and 2 field objectives, then objective_functions = 5 but scalar_objectives = 3 and field_objectives = 2.

Objective functions are responses that are used with optimization methods in Dakota. Currently, each term in a field objective is added to the total objective function presented to the optimizer. For example, if you have one field objective with 100 terms (e.g. a time-temperature trace with 100 time points and 100 corresponding temperature points), the 100 temperature values will be added to create the overall objective.
See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- objective_functions-field_objectives

field_objectives

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- field_objectives

Number of field objective functions

Specification

Alias: num_field_objectives
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
<td>lengths</td>
<td>Lengths of field responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_coordinates_per_field</td>
<td>Number of independent coordinates for field responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>coordinate_list</td>
<td>Values of the independent coordinates for field data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>coordinate_data_file</td>
<td>Name of the file which stores the values of the independent coordinates for field data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

This keyword describes the number of field objective functions. A field function is a set of related response values collected over a range of independent coordinate values which may or may not be specified by the user. For example, voltage over time would be a field function, where voltage is the field_objective and time is the independent coordinate. Similarly, temperature over time and space would be a field response, where the independent coordinates would be both time and spatial coordinates such as (x,y) or (x,y,z), depending on the application. The main difference between scalar objectives and field objectives is that for field data, we plan to implement methods that take advantage of the correlation or relationship between the field values.

Note that if there is one field_objective, and it has length 100 (meaning 100 values), then the user’s simulation code must return 100 values. Also, if there are both scalar and field objectives, the user should specify
the number of scalar objectives as scalar_objectives. If there are only field objectives, it still is necessary to specify both objective_functions = NN and field_objectives = NN, where NN is the number of field objectives.

Objective functions are responses that are used with optimization methods in Dakota. Currently, each term in a field objective is added to the total objective function presented to the optimizer. For example, if you have one field objective with 100 terms (e.g. a time-temperature trace with 100 time points and 100 corresponding temperature points), the 100 temperature values will be added to create the overall objective.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- objective_functions-scalar_objectives

lengths

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- field_objectives
- lengths

Lengths of field responses

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

This keyword describes the lengths of each field response. It is an integer vector of length field_responses. For example, if the field_responses = 2, an example would be lengths = 50 200, indicating that the first field response has 50 field elements but the second one has 200. The coordinate values (e.g. the independent variables) corresponding to these field responses are defined either with coordinate_list or coordinate_data_file.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses
num_coordinates_per_field

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- field_objectives
- num_coordinates_per_field

Number of independent coordinates for field responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

This keyword describes the number of independent coordinates for each field response. It is an integer vector of length field_responses. For example, if the field_responses = 2, an example would be num_coordinates_per_field = 2 1 means that the first field response has two sets of independent coordinates (perhaps x, y locations), but the second response only has one (for example, time where the field response is only dependent upon time). The actual coordinate values (e.g. the independent variables) corresponding to these field responses are defined either with coordinate_list or coordinate_data_file.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

coordinate_list

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- field_objectives
- coordinate_list

Values of the independent coordinates for field data

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
Description

Field data involves a field quantity or response that is dependent upon some quantity. For example, temperature (the field response) might be dependent on time (the independent coordinate). Another example is where acceleration (the field response) might be dependent on a spatial (x,y,z) location, in this case on three independent coordinates.

The `coordinate_list` specifies the actual coordinate values. Note that the number of dimensions are defined by `num_coordinates_per_field`. The length of the coordinate list is defined by `lengths`. If the length a particular field data response is very long (e.g. `lengths = 10000`), it will be easier to read the independent coordinates by reading a data file instead of specifying them with a coordinate list in the Dakota input file. For example, one could say `coordinate_data_file = 'my_coord_data.dat'` instead of the coordinate list values.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

coordinate_data_file

- Keywords Area
- responses
- objective_functions
- field_objectives
- coordinate_data_file

Name of the file which stores the values of the independent coordinates for field data

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

Field data involves a field quantity or response that is dependent upon some quantity. For example, temperature (the field response) might be dependent on time (the independent coordinate). Another example is where acceleration (the field response) might be dependent on a spatial (x,y,z) location, in this case on three independent coordinates.

The `coordinate_data_file` specifies the file which contains the actual coordinate values. Note that the number of dimensions (the number of columns of the file) is defined by `num_coordinates_per_field`. The length of the file (e.g. the number of rows in the file) is defined by `lengths`. If the length a particular field data response is very long (e.g. `lengths = 10000`), we recommend using this option. It is easier to read the independent coordinates by reading a data file instead of specifying them with a coordinate list in the Dakota input file. However, an alternative to reading them from a file is to read them via `coordinate_list`. 
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

6.6.4 calibration_terms

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms

Response type suitable for calibration or least squares

Specification

Alias: least_squares_terms num_least_squares_terms
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>primary_scale_types</td>
<td>Choose a scaling type for each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>primary_scales</td>
<td>Supply a characteristic value to scale each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>weights</td>
<td>Apply different weights to each response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>scalar_calibration_terms</td>
<td>Number of scalar calibration terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>calibration_data_file</td>
<td>Supply calibration data in a text file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>nonlinear_inequality_constraints</td>
<td>Group to specify nonlinear inequality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>nonlinear_inequality_constraints</td>
<td>Group to specify nonlinear equality constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>field_calibration_terms</td>
<td>Number of field calibration terms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

Responses for a calibration study are specified using calibration_terms and optional keywords for weighting/scaling, data, and constraints. In general when calibrating, Dakota automatically tunes parameters $\theta$ to minimize discrepancies or residuals between the model and the data:
There are two use cases:

- **If** `calibration_data_file` **is NOT specified**, then each of the calibration terms returned to Dakota through the interface is a residual \( R_i \) to be driven toward zero.

- **If** `calibration_data_file` **IS specified**, then each of the calibration terms returned to Dakota must be a response \( y_i^{Model}(\theta) \), which Dakota will difference with the data in the specified data file.

**Constraints**

The keywords `nonlinear_inequality_constraints` and `nonlinear_equality_constraints` specify the number of nonlinear inequality constraints, and nonlinear equality constraints, respectively. When interfacing to external applications, the responses must be returned to Dakota in this order: calibration terms, nonlinear_inequality_constraints, then nonlinear_equality_constraints.

Any linear constraints present in an application need only be input to an optimizer at start up and do not need to be part of the data returned on every function evaluation. These are therefore specified in the method block.

**Optional Keywords**

The optional keywords relate to scaling responses (for better numerical results), dealing with multiple residuals, and importing data.

See `scaling` for more details on scaling. If scaling is specified, then it is applied to each residual prior to squaring:

\[
 f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i \left( \frac{y_i^{Model} - y_i^{Data}}{s_i} \right)^2
\]

In the case where experimental data uncertainties are supplied, then the weights are automatically defined to be the inverse of the experimental variance:

\[
 f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} \left( \frac{y_i^{Model} - y_i^{Data}}{s_i} \right)^2
\]

**Theory**

Dakota calibration terms are typically used to solve problems of parameter estimation, system identification, and model calibration/inversion. Local least squares calibration problems are most efficiently solved using special-purpose least squares solvers such as Gauss-Newton or Levenberg-Marquardt; however, they may also be solved using any general-purpose optimization algorithm in Dakota. While Dakota can solve these problems with either least squares or optimization algorithms, the response data sets to be returned from the simulator are different when using `objective_functions` versus `calibration_terms`.

Least squares calibration involves a set of residual functions, whereas optimization involves a single objective function (sum of the squares of the residuals), i.e.,

\[
 f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} R_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i^{Model}(\theta) - y_i^{Data})^2
\]

where \( f \) is the objective function and the set of \( R_i \) are the residual functions, most commonly defined as the difference between a model response and data. Therefore, function values and derivative data in the least squares case involve the values and derivatives of the residual functions, whereas the optimization case involves values and derivatives of the sum of squares objective function. This means that in the least squares calibration case, the user must return each of \( n \) residuals separately as a separate calibration term. Switching between the two approaches...
sometimes requires different simulation interfaces capable of returning the different granularity of response data required, although Dakota supports automatic recasting of residuals into a sum of squares for presentation to an optimization method. Typically, the user must compute the difference between the model results and the observations when computing the residuals. However, the user has the option of specifying the observational data (e.g. from physical experiments or other sources) in a file.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- objective_functions
- response_functions

**primary_scale_types**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- primary_scale_types

Choose a scaling type for each response

**Specification**

**Alias**: calibration_term_scale_types least_squares_term_scale_types

**Argument(s)**: STRINGLIST

**Description**

The `primary_scale_types` keyword specifies one of number of primary functions strings indicating the scaling type for each response value in methods that support scaling, when scaling is enabled.

See the `scaling` page for details on how to use this keyword. Note that primary response functions (objective, calibration, or response functions) cannot be automatically scaled due to lack of bounds, so valid scale types are 'none' 'value' and 'log'.

**primary_scales**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- primary_scales

Supply a characteristic value to scale each response
6.6. RESPONSES

Specification

Alias: calibration_term_scales least_squares_term_scales
Argument(s): REALIST

Description

Each entry in primary_scales is a user-specified nonzero characteristic value to scale each response.

The argument may be of length 1 or the number of primary response functions. See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

weights

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- weights

Apply different weights to each response

Specification

Alias: calibration_weights least_squares_weights
Argument(s): REALIST

Description

The weights specification provides a means to specify a relative emphasis among the vector of squared residuals through multiplication of these squared residuals by a vector of weights:

\[ f = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i R_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i (y_i^M - y_i^O)^2 \]

scalar_calibration_terms

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- scalar_calibration_terms

Number of scalar calibration terms

Specification

Alias: num_scalar_calibration_terms
Argument(s): INTEGER
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

This keyword describes the number of scalar calibration terms. It is meant to be used in conjunction with field-calibration_terms, which describes the number of field calibration terms. The total number of calibration terms, both scalar and field, is given by calibration_terms. If only scalar calibration terms are specified, it is not necessary to specify the number of scalar terms explicitly: one can simply say calibration_terms = 5 and get 5 scalar terms. However, if there are three scalar terms and 2 field terms, then calibration_terms = 5 but scalar_calibration_terms = 3 and field_calibration_terms = 2.

Calibration terms are responses that are used with calibration methods in Dakota, such as least squares optimizers. Currently, each scalar term is added to the total sum-of-squares error function presented to the optimizer. However, each individual field value is added as well. For example, if you have one field calibration term with length 100 (e.g. a time-temperature trace with 100 time points and 100 temperature points), the 100 temperature values will be added to create the overall sum-of-squares error function used in calibration.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- calibration-term_responses

_calibration_data_file

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- calibration_data_file

Supply calibration data in a text file

Specification

Alias: least_squares_data_file

Argument(s): STRING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>num_experiments</td>
<td>Add context to data: number of different experiments Denotes annotated file format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>annotated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freeform</td>
<td>Denotes freeform file format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

calibration_data_file specifies a text file containing data which Dakota will attempt to match by calibrating the model variables. The options for it related to either:

- format: whether the data file is in annotated, or freeform format
- content: where num_experiments, num_config_variables, and num_std deviations indicate which columns appear in the data.

While some components may be omitted, the most complete version of a an annotated calibration data file could include columns corresponding to:

| index | configuration xvars | y data observations | y data std devs |

Here each such row in the file corresponds to an experiment or replicate observation of an experiment to be compared to the model output. NOTE: the calibration_data_file is ONLY meant when you have scalar calibration terms. If you have field calibration terms, you should use field_data and the associated specification below it.

Simple case

In the simplest case, no data content descriptors are specified, so the data file must contain only the $y_{Data}$ observations which represent a single experimental observation. In this case, the data file should have $N_{terms}$ columns and 1 row, where $N_{terms}$ is the value of calibration_terms.

For each function evaluation, Dakota will run the analysis driver, which must return $N_{terms}$ model responses. Then the residuals are computed as:

$$R_i = y_i^{Model} - y_i^{Data}.$$  

These residuals can be weighted using weights.

With experimental standard deviations

In this case, the keyword num_std deviations is added, where num_std deviations must be set to 1 or $N_{terms}$, where $N_{terms}$ is the value of calibration_terms.

If set to 1, each row of the datafile will now have $N_{terms}$ y data values followed by 1 experimental standard deviation that will be used for all $N_{terms}$ responses. If set to $N_{terms}$, each row must contain $N_{terms}$ y data values followed by $N_{terms}$ y standard deviations.

Dakota will run the analysis driver, which must return $N_{terms}$ responses. Then the residuals are computed as:

$$R_i = \frac{y_i^{Model} - y_i^{Data}}{s_i}$$  

for $i = 1 \ldots N_{terms}$. In the case with 1 standard deviation, $s_i$ will be the same for all $i$. 

| Optional | num.config.variables | Add context to data: number of configuration variables. |
| Optional | sigma_type | Add context to experiment data description: specify the type of experimental error. |
| Optional | num_std_deviations | Add context to data: measurement or observation error |
**Fully general case**

In the most general case, the content of the data file is described by the arguments of four parameters. The parameters are optional, and defaults are described below.

- **num_experiments** ($N_{exp}$)
  
  Default: $N_{exp} = N_{terms}$

  This indicates that the data represents multiple experiments, where each experiment might be conducted with different values of configuration variables. An experiment can also be thought of as a replicate, where the experiments are run at the same values of the configuration variables.

- **num_config_variables** ($N_{cfg}$)

  This is not yet supported, but will specify the values of experimental conditions at which data were collected.

- **num_std_deviations** ($N_{std}$)
  
  Default: $N_{std} = 0$

  The keyword `num_std_deviations` allows the user to specify different values for the experimental error, i.e., measurement or observation error in the calibration data file. If `num_std_deviations = 0`, the user does not specify any experimental error terms in the calibration data file, only the actual observations are specified. If the user specifies `num_std_deviations` equal to the number of calibration terms, then each row of a freeform calibration data file must contain two times calibration terms. The first calibration terms columns are the experimental data, and the second calibration terms columns are the experimental standard deviations. For example, if the user has three calibration terms, and specifies `num_std_deviations` equal to three, then the calibration data must contain six columns. The first three columns will contain the data, and the second three columns will contain the experimental error for the data in the first three columns. Finally, if the user specifies `num_std_deviations` equal to one, the same value of the standard deviations will be used for all of the calibration terms. In the example given above, with three calibration terms, if `num_std_deviations` equal to one, the there would be four columns in the calibration data file, and the fourth column would contain the standard deviation that would be applied to all three calibration columns. Note that the standard deviations are given in units of a standard deviation or sigma term, not a variance term. These standard deviations are used to weight the residuals in the sum-of-squares objective.

  A more advanced use of the calibration data file might specify `num_experiments $N_E$` indicating that there are multiple experiments. When multiple experiments are present, Dakota will expand the number of residuals for the repeat measurement data and difference with the data accordingly. For example, if the user has five experiments in the example above with three calibration terms, the calibration data file would need to contain five rows (one for each experiment), and each row should contain three experimental data values that will be differenced with respect to the appropriate model response. In this example, $N_E = 5$. To summarize, Dakota will calculate the sum of the squared residuals as:

  $$f = \sum_{i=1}^{N_E} R_i^2$$

  where the residuals now are calculated as:

  $$R_i = y_i^{Model}(\theta) - y_i^{Data}.$$
6.6. RESPONSES

num_experiments

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- calibration_data_file
- num_experiments

Add context to data: number of different experiments

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

See calibration_data_file.

annotated

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- calibration_data_file
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
Description
An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of 
evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating 
rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, 
variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior
By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input 
file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
• Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to 
annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found 
and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```dakota
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated
```

freeform

• Keywords Area
• responses
• calibration_terms
• calibration_data_file
• freeform

Denotes freeform file format

Topics
This keyword is related to the topics:

• file_formats

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none
Description

A freeform file is a text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

Default Behavior

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

- For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

- Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

```plaintext
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform
num_config_variables
  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • calibration_terms
  • calibration_data_file
  • num_config_variables

Add context to data: number of configuration variables.
```

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

See calibration_data_file.
**sigma_type**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- calibration_data_file
- sigma_type

Add context to experiment data description: specify the type of experimental error.

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

There are three options for specifying the experimental error (e.g. the measurement error in the data you provide for calibration purposes): NO_SIGMA, SCALAR_SIGMA, or COVARIANCE_MATRIX. If the user specifies NO_SIGMA, Dakota will calculate a sigma term (one constant sigma term across all of the data) based on the data. If the user specifies SCALAR_SIGMA, they can provide either a constant sigma term across all the data or a vector of sigma terms, where one is provided for each measurement. If the user specifies COVARIANCE_MATRIX, which is only allowed for field data, the user then needs to specify an M-by-M covariance matrix, where each element(i,j) of the covariance matrix represents the covariance between the i-th and j-th field values.

**num_std_deviations**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- calibration_data_file
- num_std_deviations

Add context to data: measurement or observation error

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

**Description**

See calibration_data_file.
6.6. RESPONSES

nonlinear_inequality_constraints

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- nonlinear_inequality_constraints

Group to specify nonlinear inequality constraints

**Specification**

**Alias:** num_nonlinear_inequality_constraints

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

| Required/- | Description of Group | Dakota Keyword | Dakota Keyword Description |
| Optionals | | | |
| Optional | lower_bounds | lower_bounds | Specify minimum values |
| Optional | upper_bounds | upper_bounds | Specify maximum values |
| Optional | scale_types | scale_types | Choose how each constraint is scaled |
| Optional | scales | scales | Characteristic values for scaling |

**Description**

The `lower_bounds` and `upper_bounds` specifications provide the lower and upper bounds for 2-sided nonlinear inequalities of the form

\[ g_l \leq g(x) \leq g_u \]

The defaults for the inequality constraint bounds are selected so that one-sided inequalities of the form

\[ g(x) \leq 0.0 \]

result when there are no user constraint bounds specifications (this provides backwards compatibility with previous Dakota versions).

In a user bounds specification, any upper bound values greater than `+bigRealBoundSize` (1.e+30, as defined in Minimizer) are treated as +infinity and any lower bound values less than `-bigRealBoundSize` are treated as -infinity. This feature is commonly used to drop one of the bounds in order to specify a 1-sided constraint (just as the default lower bounds drop out since `-DBL_MAX < -bigRealBoundSize`). The same approach is used for nonexistent linear inequality bounds and for nonexistent design variable bounds.

The `scale_types` and `scales` keywords are related to scaling of \( g(x) \). See the `scaling` page for details.

**lower_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
• nonlinear_inequality_constraints
• lower_bounds

Specify minimum values

**Specification**

Alias: nonlinear_inequality_lower_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

Specify minimum values

**upper_bounds**

• Keywords Area
• responses
• calibration_terms
• nonlinear_inequality_constraints
• upper_bounds

Specify maximum values

**Specification**

Alias: nonlinear_inequality_upper_bounds
Argument(s): REALLIST

**Description**

Specify maximum values

**scale_types**

• Keywords Area
• responses
• calibration_terms
• nonlinear_inequality_constraints
• scale_types

Choose how each constraint is scaled
6.6. RESPONSES

**Specification**

*Alias:* nonlinear_inequality_scale_types  
*Argument(s):* STRINGLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

scales

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- nonlinear_inequality_constraints
- scales

Characteristic values for scaling

**Specification**

*Alias:* nonlinear_inequality_scales  
*Argument(s):* REALLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

**nonlinear.equality_constraints**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- nonlinear.equality_constraints

Group to specify nonlinear equality constraints

**Specification**

*Alias:* num_nonlinear.equality_constraints  
*Argument(s):* INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Optional | targets | Target values for the nonlinear equality constraint
Optional | scale_types | Choose how each constraint is scaled
Optional | scales | Characteristic values for scaling

Description
The targets specification provides the targets for nonlinear equalities of the form

\[ g(x) = g_t \]

and the defaults for the equality targets enforce a value of 0.0 for each constraint:

\[ g(x) = 0.0 \]

The scale_types and scales keywords are related to scaling of \( g(x) \). See the scaling page for details.

targets

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- nonlinear_equality_constraints
- targets

Target values for the nonlinear equality constraint

Specification
Alias: nonlinear_equality_targets
Argument(s): REALLIST

Description
The targets specification provides the targets for nonlinear equalities of the form

\[ g(x) = g_t \]

and the defaults for the equality targets enforce a value of 0.0 for each constraint:

\[ g(x) = 0.0 \]
6.6. RESPONSES

**scale_types**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- nonlinear.equality.constraints
- scale_types

Choose how each constraint is scaled

**Specification**

**Alias:** nonlinear.equality.scale_types

**Argument(s):** STRINGLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

**scales**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- nonlinear.equality.constraints
- scales

Characteristic values for scaling

**Specification**

**Alias:** nonlinear.equality.scales

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

See the scaling page for details on how to use this keyword.

**field_calibration_terms**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms

Number of field calibration terms
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: num_field_calibration_terms
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description of</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_coordinates_per_field</td>
<td>lengths</td>
<td>Description of Group</td>
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<td>Optional</td>
<td>coordinate_list</td>
<td>num_coordinates_per_field</td>
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<td>Optional/Choose One</td>
<td>coordinate_list</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>field_data</td>
<td>coordinate_data_file</td>
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</table>

Description

This keyword describes the number of field calibration terms. A set of field calibration terms is a set of related response values collected over a range of independent coordinate values which may or may not be specified by the user. For example, voltage over time would be a field function, where voltage is the field objective and time is the independent coordinate. Similarly, temperature over time and space would be a field response, where the independent coordinates would be both time and spatial coordinates such as (x,y) or (x,y,z), depending on the application. The main difference between scalar calibration terms and field calibration terms is that for field data, we plan to implement methods that take advantage of the correlation or relationship between the field values. For example, with calibration, if we want to calibrate parameters that result in a good model fit to a time-temperature curve, we may have to do some interpolation between the experimental data and the simulation data. That capability requires knowledge of the independent coordinates.

Note that if there is one field_calibration_terms, and it has length 100 (meaning 100 values), then the user’s simulation code must return 100 values. Also, if there are both scalar and field calibration, the user should specify the number of scalar terms as scalar_calibration_terms. If there are only field calibration terms, it still is necessary to specify both field_calibration_terms = NN and calibration_terms = NN, where NN is the number of field calibration terms.

Calibration terms are responses that are used with calibration methods in Dakota, such as least squares optimizers. Currently, each scalar term is added to the total sum-of-squares error function presented to the optimizer. However, each individual field value is added as well. For example, if you have one field calibration term with
length 100 (e.g. a time-temperature trace with 100 time points and 100 temperature points), the 100 temperature values will be added to create the overall sum-of-squares error function used in calibration. NOTE: We plan to add a capability to interpolate the field data from the user's simulation to the experimental data. For example, if the user has thermocouple readings at 20 time points, it will be an experimental field response with 20 time points and 20 temperature values. We plan to take the 100 simulation time-temperature values (from the example above) and interpolate those to the 20 experimental points, to create 20 residual terms (simulation minus experimental data points) that will be used in calibration. As of release 6.1, however, this capability is not yet available in Dakota.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- calibration_terms
- scalar_calibration_terms
- lengths
- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- lengths

Lengths of field responses

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description
This keyword describes the lengths of each field response. It is an integer vector of length field_responses. For example, if the field_responses = 2, an example would be lengths = 50 200, indicating that the first field response has 50 field elements but the second one has 200. The coordinate values (e.g. the independent variables) corresponding to these field responses are defined either with coordinate_list or coordinate_data_file.

See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses
- field_responses
num_coordinates_per_field

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- num_coordinates_per_field

Number of independent coordinates for field responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

This keyword describes the number of independent coordinates for each field response. It is an integer vector of length field_responses. For example, if the field_responses = 2, an example would be num_coordinates_per_field = 2 1 means that the first field response has two sets of independent coordinates (perhaps x, y locations), but the second response only has one (for example, time where the field response is only dependent upon time). The actual coordinate values (e.g. the independent variables) corresponding to these field responses are defined either with coordinate_list or coordinate_data_file.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

**coordinate_list**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- coordinate_list

Values of the independent coordinates for field data

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** REALLIST
Description

Field data involves a field quantity or response that is dependent upon some quantity. For example, temperature (the field response) might be dependent on time (the independent coordinate). Another example is where acceleration (the field response) might be dependent on a spatial (x,y,z) location, in this case on three independent coordinates.

The coordinate_list specifies the actual coordinate values. Note that the number of dimensions are defined by num_coordinates_per_field. The length of the coordinate list is defined by lengths. If the length a particular field data response is very long (e.g. lengths = 10000), it will be easier to read the independent coordinates by reading a data file instead of specifying them with a coordinate list in the Dakota input file. For example, one could say coordinate_data_file = 'my_coord_data.dat' instead of the coordinate list values.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

coordinate_data_file

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- coordinate_data_file

Name of the file which stores the values of the independent coordinates for field data

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Field data involves a field quantity or response that is dependent upon some quantity. For example, temperature (the field response) might be dependent on time (the independent coordinate). Another example is where acceleration (the field response) might be dependent on a spatial (x,y,z) location, in this case on three independent coordinates.

The coordinate_data_file specifies the file which contains the actual coordinate values. Note that the number of dimensions (the number of columns of the file) is defined by num_coordinates_per_field. The length of the file (e.g. the number of rows in the file) is defined by lengths. If the length a particular field data response is very long (e.g. lengths = 10000), we recommend using this option. It is easier to read the independent coordinates by reading a data file instead of specifying them with a coordinate list in the Dakota input file. However, an alternative to reading them from a file is to read them via coordinate_list.
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

field_data

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- field_data

CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Describe the field data from experiments that will be used in calibration.

Specification

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

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<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<td>field data.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>sigma_type</td>
<td>Add context to experiment data description: specify the type of experimental error.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>field_data_file</td>
<td>CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the experimental field data will be located.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>config_data_file</td>
<td>CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the configuration data per experiment will be located.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>field_coordinate_data_file</td>
<td>CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the experimental coordinate data will be located.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>sigma_data_file</td>
<td>CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the experimental measurement error information will be located.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

**CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE**

If the user has specified `field_calibration_terms` and wants to provide experiment data with which to calibration the field data from the simulations, the experiment data is specified in a block starting with `field_data`. There are a number of options and we have tried to make it as flexible as possible. NOTE: As of Dakota 6.1, this is a preliminary capability that we are implementing and is not available yet.

- format: whether the data files are in annotated, or freeform format
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

• **content:** where `num_experiments`, `num_config_variables`, and `sigma_type` indicate which the
  number of experiments, the number of configuration variables, and the type of measurement error,
  respectively.

• **files:** There are four types of files which are outlined below. The files are `field_data_file` which con-
  tains the actual responses (the field responses), the `config_data_file` which contains the configuration
  variable settings, the `field_coordinate_data_file` which contains the independent coordinate data
  for the experiments (e.g. if the data is time-temperature readings, the field data file contains temperature
  values and the field coordinate file contains the corresponding time values), and the `sigma_data_file`
  which contains the measurement error.

The number of experiments defines how many experiments will be used in the calibration. Note that we require
separate data files for each experiment in the case of field data. The experimental field responses will be stored in
.dat files, named: `response_descriptor.dat.experiment_num` For example, if the response is voltage as a function
of time with the field response being named 'voltage', the `field_data_file` = 'voltage.dat' and the files will be
named `voltage.dat.1`, `voltage.dat.2`, , etc. to `voltage.dat.K`, where K is the number of experiments.

For each field calibration data file, there will be J columns of independent coordinates followed by the column
of field data. We will check if the number of independent coordinate columns is the same as that provided in
the `calibration_terms` section: if it is not, an error will be thrown. We will assume the length of the field
 calibration data file is the number of experimental points. In the example mentioned above, there may be 2000
time-voltage points from the simulation but only 50 time-voltage points from the experiment. To summarize, an
example `voltage.dat.1` file may look like:

```
Time  Voltage
0.0   0.0
1.0   0.22
2.0   0.32
3.0   0.45
```

Etc.

If the user has configuration variable values for each experiment, these would be specified as: `voltage.config-
1`, `voltage.config.2`, etc. Each of these files should have `num_config_variables` entries. If the user does not
want to include coordinate data with the field data as the example above, but wants to have separate files for the
responses vs. the coordinates (e.g. separate files for the time and voltage in the example above), they can provide
the coordinates in `voltage.coord.1`, `voltage.coord.2`, etc. which is specified by `config_data_file`.

Finally, the experimental measurement error is provided in the `sigma_data_file`. For example, this may
be something like `voltage.sigma.1`, `voltage.sigma.2`, etc. For each experiment, the measurement error will be of
the type specified by `sigma_type`: either NO_SIGMA, SCALAR_SIGMA, or COVARIANCE_MATRIX. If
the user specifies NO_SIGMA, Dakota will calculate a sigma term (one constant sigma term across all of the data)
based on the data. If the user specifies SCALAR_SIGMA, they will provide either a constant sigma term across all
the data or a vector of sigma terms, where one is provided for each measurement. The SCALAR_SIGMA values
will be provided in the `sigma_data_file`. If the user specifies COVARIANCE_MATRIX, which is only allowed for
field data, the user then needs to specify an M-by-M covariance matrix, where each element(i,j) of the covariance
matrix represents the covariance between the i-th and j-th field values.

num_experiments

• Keywords Area
• responses
• calibration_terms
• field_calibration_terms

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- field_data
- num_experiments

CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Identify the number of different experiments for field data

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

num_experiments defines how many experiments will be used in the calibration. For field data, each experiment needs to have one or more files provided that contain the field values, the coordinate values, the sigma values, and the configuration variable values.

annotated

- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- field_data
- annotated

Denotes annotated file format

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

An annotated file is a text file with one leading row of comments/column labels and one leading column of evaluation/row IDs surrounding num_rows x num_cols whitespace-separated numeric data, (newlines separating rows are not currently required, but may be in the future). The numeric data in a row may correspond to variables, variables followed by responses, data point for calibration, etc., depending on context.

Default Behavior

By default, Dakota expects point files to be in annotated format. To explicitly specify this in the Dakota input file, however, the annotated keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

Usage Tips
Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.

For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

**Examples**

```python
method
  list_parameter_study
  import_pointa_file = 'dakota_pstudy.3.dat'
  annotated

freeform
  - Keywords Area
  - responses
  - calibration_terms
  - field_calibration_terms
  - field_data
  - freeform
```

Denotes freeform file format

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- file_formats

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

A freeform file is text file with no leading row and no leading column. The num_rows x num_cols total numeric data entries may appear separated with any whitespace including arbitrary spaces, tabs, and newlines. In this format, vectors may therefore appear as a single row or single column (or mixture; entries will populate the vector in order).

**Default Behavior**

The freeform format is not used by Dakota by default. To change this behavior, the freeform keyword must be used in conjunction with the import_points_file keyword.

**Usage Tips**

- Prior to October 2011, calibration and surrogate data files were free-form format. They now default to annotated format, though freeform remains an option.
• For both formats, a warning will be generated if a specific number of data are expected, but extra is found and an error generated when there is insufficient data.

• Some TPLs like SCOLIB and JEGA manage their own file I/O and only support the free-form option.

Examples

method
  list_parameter_study
  import_points_file = 'dakota_pstudy.7.dat'
  freeform

  num_config_variables

  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • calibration_terms
  • field_calibration_terms
  • field_data
  • num_config_variables

  CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Define the number of configuration variables associated with experimental field data.

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

See field_data

  sigma_type

  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • calibration_terms
  • field_calibration_terms
  • field_data
  • sigma_type

  Add context to experiment data description: specify the type of experimental error.
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRINGLIST

Description

There are three options for specifying the experimental error (e.g. the measurement error in the data you provide for calibration purposes): NO_SIGMA, SCALAR_SIGMA, or COVARIANCE_MATRIX. If the user specifies NO_SIGMA, Dakota will calculate a sigma term (one constant sigma term across all of the data) based on the data. If the user specifies SCALAR_SIGMA, they can provide either a constant sigma term across all the data or a vector of sigma terms, where one is provided for each measurement. If the user specifies COVARIANCE_MATRIX, which is only allowed for field data, the user then needs to specify an M-by-M covariance matrix, where each element(i,j) of the covariance matrix represents the covariance between the i-th and j-th field values.

field_data_file
- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- field_data
- field_data_file

CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the experimental field data will be located.

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): STRING

Description

The field data will be specified in field_data_file. If there is more than one experiment, there will need to be K data files, where K = num_experiments. If field_data_file = 'response.dat', each experimental data file should be named response.dat.1, response.dat.2,...,response.dat.K. See field_data

config_data_file
- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- field_data
6.6. RESPONSES

- **config_data_file**

  CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the configuration data per experiment will be located.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The configuration data will be specified in `config_data_file`. If there is more than one experiment, there will need to be K data files, where K = num_experiments. If `config_data_file` = 'response.config', each experimental data file should be named response.config.1, response.config.2,...,response.config.K. Each file will contain `num_config_variables` values. See `field_data`

- **field_coordinate_data_file**

  - **Keywords Area**
  
  - **responses**
  
  - **calibration_terms**
  
  - **field_calibration_terms**
  
  - **field_data**
  
  - **field_coordinate_data_file**

  CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the experimental coordinate data will be located.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The coordinate data will be specified in `field_coordinate_data_file`. If there is more than one experiment, there will need to be K data files, where K = num_experiments. Each coordinate data should contain `num_coordinates_per_field` columns, where each column represents an independent coordinate which the field data is a function of. For example, the independent coordinate in time-temperature field data is time, and the field data itself is temperature. See `field_data`
**CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA**

**sigma_data_file**
- Keywords Area
- responses
- calibration_terms
- field_calibration_terms
- field_data
- sigma_data_file

CAPABILITY NOT YET ACTIVE Add main file name identifying where the experimental measurement error information will be located.

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** STRING

**Description**

The measurement error will be specified in `sigma_data_file`. If there is more than one experiment, there will need to be K data files, where K = `num_experiments`. The `sigma_data_file` will contain one number in the case of constant measurement error for all field data, a vector in the case of separate, independent measurement errors for each field data point, and a full covariance matrix for correlated measurement error. See `field_data`

**6.6.5 response_functions**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- response_functions

Generic response type

**Specification**

Alias: num_response_functions

**Argument(s):** INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>scalar_responses</td>
<td>Number of scalar response functions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>field_responses</td>
<td>Number of field responses functions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description

A generic response data set is specified using response_functions. Each of these functions is simply a response quantity of interest with no special interpretation taken by the method in use.

Whereas objective, constraint, and residual functions have special meanings for optimization and least squares algorithms, the generic response function data set need not have a specific interpretation and the user is free to define whatever functional form is convenient.

Theory

This type of data set is used by uncertainty quantification methods, in which the effect of parameter uncertainty on response functions is quantified, and can also be used in parameter study and design of experiments methods (although these methods are not restricted to this data set), in which the effect of parameter variations on response functions is evaluated.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- objective_functions
- calibration_terms

scalar_responses

- Keywords Area
- responses
- response_functions
- scalar_responses

Number of scalar response functions

Specification

Alias: num_scalar_responses

Argument(s): INTEGER

Description

This keyword describes the number of scalar response functions. It is meant to be used in conjunction with field_responses, which describes the number of field response functions. The total number of response functions, both scalar and field, is given by response_functions. If only scalar responses functions are specified, it is not necessary to specify the number of scalar terms explicitly: one can simply say response_functions = 5 and get 5 scalar responses. However, if there are three scalar responses and 2 field responses, then response_functions = 5 but scalar_responses = 3 and field_responses = 2.

This type of data set is used by uncertainty quantification methods, in which the effect of parameter uncertainty on response functions is quantified, and can also be used in parameter study and design of experiments methods (although these methods are not restricted to this data set), in which the effect of parameter variations on response functions is evaluated.
See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

field_responses

- Keywords Area
- responses
- response_functions
- field_responses

Number of field responses functions

Specification
Alias: num_field_responses
Argument(s): INTEGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Required</td>
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<td>lengths</td>
<td>Lengths of field responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>num_coordinates_-per_field</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of independent coordinates for field responses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>coordinate_list</td>
<td></td>
<td>Values of the independent coordinates for field data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
This keyword describes the number of field response functions. A field function is a set of related response values collected over a range of independent coordinate values which may or may not be specified by the user. For example, voltage over time would be a field function, where voltage is the field.objective and time is the independent coordinate. Similarly, temperature over time and space would be a field response, where the independent coordinates would be both time and spatial coordinates such as (x,y) or (x,y,z), depending on the application. The main difference between scalar responses and field responses is that for field data, we plan to implement methods that take advantage of the correlation or relationship between the field values.

Note that if there is one field_response, and it has length 100 (meaning 100 values), then the user’s simulation code must return 100 values. Also, if there are both scalar and field responses, the user should specify
the number of scalar responses as `scalar_responses`. If there are only field responses, it still is necessary to specify both `response_functions = NN` and `field_responses = NN`, where NN is the number of field responses.

This type of data set is used by uncertainty quantification methods, in which the effect of parameter uncertainty on response functions is quantified, and can also be used in parameter study and design of experiments methods (although these methods are not restricted to this data set), in which the effect of parameter variations on response functions is evaluated. As of Dakota 6.1, field response functions will be translated back to scalar responses. So, a field of length 100 will be treated as 100 separate scalar responses. However, in future versions of Dakota, we plan to implement methods which can exploit the nature of field data.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `responses-scalar_responses`

**lengths**

- `Keywords Area`
- `responses`
- `response_functions`
- `field_responses`
- `lengths`

Lengths of field responses

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

This keyword describes the lengths of each field response. It is an integer vector of length `field_responses`. For example, if the `field_responses = 2`, an example would be `lengths = 50 200`, indicating that the first field response has 50 field elements but the second one has 200. The coordinate values (e.g. the independent variables) corresponding to these field responses are defined either with `coordinate_list` or `coordinate_data_file`.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `responses-field_responses`
**num_coordinates_per_field**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- response_functions
- field_responses
- num_coordinates_per_field

Number of independent coordinates for field responses

**Specification**

Alias: none

*Argument(s):* INTEGERLIST

**Description**

This keyword describes the number of independent coordinates for each field response. It is an integer vector of length field_responses. For example, if the field_responses = 2, an example would be num_coordinates_per_field = 2 1 means that the first field response has two sets of independent coordinates (perhaps x, y locations), but the second response only has one (for example, time where the field response is only dependent upon time). The actual coordinate values (e.g. the independent variables) corresponding to these field responses are defined either with coordinate_list or coordinate_data_file.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

**coordinate_list**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- response_functions
- field_responses
- coordinate_list

Values of the independent coordinates for field data

**Specification**

Alias: none

*Argument(s):* REALLIST
Description

Field data involves a field quantity or response that is dependent upon some quantity. For example, temperature (the field response) might be dependent on time (the independent coordinate). Another example is where acceleration (the field response) might be dependent on a spatial (x,y,z) location, in this case on three independent coordinates.

The coordinate_list specifies the actual coordinate values. Note that the number of dimensions are defined by num_coordinates_per_field. The length of the coordinate list is defined by lengths. If the length a particular field data response is very long (e.g. lengths = 10000), it will be easier to read the independent coordinates by reading a data file instead of specifying them with a coordinate list in the Dakota input file. For example, one could say coordinate_data_file = 'my_coord_data.dat' instead of the coordinate list values.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- responses-field_responses

coordinate_data_file

- Keywords Area
- responses
- response_functions
- field_responses
- coordinate_data_file

Name of the file which stores the values of the independent coordinates for field data

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): STRING

Description

Field data involves a field quantity or response that is dependent upon some quantity. For example, temperature (the field response) might be dependent on time (the independent coordinate). Another example is where acceleration (the field response) might be dependent on a spatial (x,y,z) location, in this case on three independent coordinates.

The coordinate_data_file specifies the file which contains the actual coordinate values. Note that the number of dimensions (the number of columns of the file) is defined by num_coordinates_per_field. The length of the file (e.g. the number of rows in the file) is defined by lengths. If the length a particular field data response is very long (e.g. lengths = 10000), we recommend using this option. It is easier to read the independent coordinates by reading a data file instead of specifying them with a coordinate list in the Dakota input file. However, an alternative to reading them from a file is to read them via coordinate_list.
6.6.6 no_gradients

Gradients will not be used

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none

**Description**

The `no_gradients` specification means that gradient information is not needed in the study. Therefore, it will neither be retrieved from the simulation nor computed with finite differences. The `no_gradients` keyword is a complete specification for this case.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `numerical_gradients`
- `analytic_gradients`
- `mixed_gradients`

6.6.7 analytic_gradients

Analysis driver will return gradients

**Specification**

Alias: none  
Argument(s): none
Description

The `analytic_gradients` specification means that gradient information is available directly from the simulation (finite differencing is not required). The simulation must return the gradient data in the Dakota format (enclosed in single brackets; see Dakota File Data Formats in the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010") for the case of file transfer of data. The `analytic_gradients` keyword is a complete specification for this case.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `numerical_gradients`
- `no_gradients`
- `mixed_gradients`

6.6.8 mixed_gradients

- Keywords Area
- `responses`
- `mixed_gradients`

Gradients are needed and will be obtained from a mix of numerical and analytic sources.

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
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<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>id_numerical_gradients</td>
<td></td>
<td>Identify which numerical gradient corresponds to which response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td>id_analytic_gradients</td>
<td></td>
<td>Identify which analytical gradient corresponds to which response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>method_source</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specify which finite difference routine is used (Default) Use internal Dakota finite differences algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td></td>
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### Vendor

Use non-Dakota fd algorithm

<table>
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<th>Use non-Dakota fd algorithm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Optional

**interval**

Specify how to compute gradients and hessians

**forward**

Use forward differences

**central**

Use central differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Use non-Dakota fd algorithm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Optional (Choose One) Group 2

**forward**

Use forward differences

**central**

Use central differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Use non-Dakota fd algorithm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Optional

**fd_step_size**

Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Use non-Dakota fd algorithm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Description

The `mixed_gradients` specification means that some gradient information is available directly from the simulation (analytic) whereas the rest will have to be finite differenced (numerical). This specification allows the user to make use of as much analytic gradient information as is available and then finite difference for the rest.

The `method`, `interval`, and `fd_step_size` specifications pertain to those functions listed by the `id_numerical_gradients` list.

### Examples

For example, the objective function may be a simple analytic function of the design variables (e.g., weight) whereas the constraints are nonlinear implicit functions of complex analyses (e.g., maximum stress).

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `numerical_gradients`
- `no_gradients`
- `analytic_gradients`

### `id_numerical_gradients`

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **mixed_gradients**
- **id_numerical_gradients**

Identify which numerical gradient corresponds to which response

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `objective_function_pointer`
6.6. RESPONSES

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The id_analytic_gradients list specifies by number the functions which have analytic gradients, and the id_numerical_gradients list specifies by number the functions which must use numerical gradients. Each function identifier, from 1 through the total number of functions, must appear once and only once within the union of the id_analytic_gradients and id_numerical_gradients lists.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- id_analytic_gradients

id_analytic_gradients

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- id_analytic_gradients

Identify which analytical gradient corresponds to which response

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- objective_function_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

Description

The id_analytic_gradients list specifies by number the functions which have analytic gradients, and the id_numerical_gradients list specifies by number the functions which must use numerical gradients. Each function identifier, from 1 through the total number of functions, must appear once and only once within the union of the id_analytic_gradients and id_numerical_gradients lists.

See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- id_numerical_gradients
method_source

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- method_source

Specify which finite difference routine is used

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

The `method_source` setting specifies the source of the finite differencing routine that will be used to compute the numerical gradients:

- dakota (default)
- vendor

`dakota` denotes Dakota’s internal finite differencing algorithm and `vendor` denotes the finite differencing algorithm supplied by the iterator package in use (DOT, CONMIN, NPSOL, NL2SOL, NLSSOL, and OPT++ each have their own internal finite differencing routines). The `dakota` routine is the default since it can execute in parallel and exploit the concurrency in finite difference evaluations (see Exploiting Parallelism in the Users Manual [4] "Adams et al., 2010").

However, the `vendor` setting can be desirable in some cases since certain libraries will modify their algorithm when the finite differencing is performed internally. Since the selection of the `dakota` routine hides the use of finite differencing from the optimizers (the optimizers are configured to accept user-supplied gradients, which some algorithms assume to be of analytic accuracy), the potential exists for the `vendor` setting to trigger the use of an algorithm more optimized for the higher expense and/or lower accuracy of finite-differencing. For example, NPSOL uses gradients in its line search when in user-supplied gradient mode (since it assumes they are inexpensive), but uses a value-based line search procedure when internally finite differencing. The use of a value-based line search will often reduce total expense in serial operations. However, in parallel operations, the use of gradients in the NPSOL line search (user-supplied gradient mode) provides excellent load balancing without need to resort to speculative optimization approaches.

In summary, then, the `dakota` routine is preferred for parallel optimization, and the `vendor` routine may be preferred for serial optimization in special cases.

**dakota**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- dakota

( Default) Use internal Dakota finite differences algorithm
6.6. RESPONSES

Specification

Alias: none

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>ignore_bounds</td>
<td>Do not respect bounds when computing gradients or Hessians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>relative</td>
<td>Scale step size by the parameter value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>absolute</td>
<td>Do not scale step-size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>bounds</td>
<td>Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The *dakota* routine is the default since it can execute in parallel and exploit the concurrency in finite difference evaluations (see Exploiting Parallelism in the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]).

When the *method_source* is *dakota*, the user may also specify the type of scaling desired when determining the finite difference step size. The choices are *absolute*, *bounds*, and *relative*. For *absolute*, the step size will be applied as is. For *bounds*, it will be scaled by the range of each parameter. For *relative*, it will be scaled by the parameter value.

**ignore_bounds**

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **mixed_gradients**
- **dakota**
- **ignore_bounds**

Do not respect bounds when computing gradients or Hessians

Specification

Alias: none

| Argument(s): none |
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Description

When Dakota computes gradients or Hessians by finite differences and the variables in question have bounds, it by default Choose finite-differencing steps that keep the variables within their specified bounds. Older versions of Dakota generally ignored bounds when computing finite differences. To restore the older behavior, one can add keyword `ignore_bounds` to the response specification when `method_source dakota` (or just `dakota`) is also specified.

In forward difference or backward difference computations, honoring bounds is straightforward. To honor bounds when approximating $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$, i.e., component $i$ of the gradient of $f$, by central differences, Dakota chooses two steps $h_1$ and $h_2$ with $h_1 \neq h_2$, such that $x + h_1 e_i$ and $x + h_2 e_i$ both satisfy the bounds, and then computes

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{h_2^2(f_1 - f_0) - h_1^2(f_2 - f_0)}{h_1 h_2 (h_2 - h_1)},$$

with $f_0 = f(x)$, $f_1 = f(x + h_1 e_i)$, and $f_2 = f(x + h_2 e_i)$.

relative

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- dakota
- relative

Scale step size by the parameter value

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

Scale step size by the parameter value

absolute

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- dakota
- absolute

Do not scale step-size
6.6. RESPONSES

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Do not scale step-size

**bounds**

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **mixed_gradients**
- **dakota**
- **bounds**

Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

**vendor**

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **mixed_gradients**
- **vendor**

Use non-Dakota fd algorithm

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page for usage notes.
interval_type
- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- interval_type

Specify how to compute gradients and hessians

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The *interval_type* setting is used to select between forward and central differences in the numerical gradient calculations. The *dakota*, *DOT vendor*, and OPT++ vendor routines have both forward and central differences available, the CONMIN and NL2SOL vendor routines support forward differences only, and the NP-SOL and NLSSOL vendor routines start with forward differences and automatically switch to central differences as the iteration progresses (the user has no control over this). The following forward difference expression

\[
\nabla f(x) \approx \frac{f(x + he_i) - f(x)}{h}
\]

and the following central difference expression

\[
\nabla f(x) \approx \frac{f(x + he_i) - f(x - he_i)}{2h}
\]

are used to estimate the \(i^{th}\) component of the gradient vector.

**forward**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- forward

Use forward differences

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page for usage notes.
6.6. RESPONSES

central

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- central

Use central differences

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

See parent page for usage notes.

fd_step_size

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_gradients
- fd_step_size

Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians

Specification

Alias: fd_gradient_step_size

Argument(s): REALLIST

Description

fd_gradient_step_size specifies the relative finite difference step size to be used in the computations. Either a single value may be entered for use with all parameters, or a list of step sizes may be entered, one for each parameter.

The latter option of a list of step sizes is only valid for use with the Dakota finite differencing routine. For Dakota with an interval scaling type of absolute, the differencing interval will be fd_gradient_step_size.

For Dakota with and interval scaling type of bounds, the differing intervals are computed by multiplying fd_gradient_step_size with the range of the parameter. For Dakota (with an interval scaling type of relative), DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++, the differing intervals are computed by multiplying the fd_gradient_step_size with the current parameter value. In this case, a minimum absolute differing interval is needed when the current parameter value is close to zero. This prevents finite difference intervals for the parameter which are too small to distinguish differences in the response quantities being computed. Dakota,
DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ all use .01*fd\_gradient\_step\_size as their minimum absolute differencing interval. With a fd\_gradient\_step\_size = .001, for example, Dakota, DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ will use intervals of .001*current value with a minimum interval of 1.e-5. NPSOL and NLSSOL use a different formula for their finite difference intervals: fd\_gradient\_step\_size*(1+|current parameter value|). This definition has the advantage of eliminating the need for a minimum absolute differencing interval since the interval no longer goes to zero as the current parameter value goes to zero.

### 6.6.9 numerical\_gradients

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical\_gradients

Gradients are needed and will be approximated by finite differences

#### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>method_source</td>
<td>Specify which finite difference routine is used (Default) Use internal Dakota finite differences algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>dakota</td>
<td>Use non-Dakota fd algorithm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>interval_type</td>
<td>Specify how to compute gradients and Hessians Use forward differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>forward</td>
<td>Use forward differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>central</td>
<td>Use central differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>fd_step_size</td>
<td>Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Description

The numerical\_gradients specification means that gradient information is needed and will be computed with finite differences using either the native or one of the vendor finite differencing routines.
**6.6. RESPONSES**

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- no_gradients
- analytic_gradients
- mixed_gradients

**method_source**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- method_source

Specify which finite difference routine is used

**Specification**

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

**Description**

The `method_source` setting specifies the source of the finite differencing routine that will be used to compute the numerical gradients:

- dakota (default)
- vendor

`dakota` denotes Dakota’s internal finite differencing algorithm and `vendor` denotes the finite differencing algorithm supplied by the iterator package in use (DOT, CONMIN, NPSOL, NL2SOL, NLSSOL, and OPT++ each have their own internal finite differencing routines). The `dakota` routine is the default since it can execute in parallel and exploit the concurrency in finite difference evaluations (see Exploiting Parallelism in the Users Manual ["Adams et al., 2010"]).

However, the `vendor` setting can be desirable in some cases since certain libraries will modify their algorithm when the finite differencing is performed internally. Since the selection of the `dakota` routine hides the use of finite differencing from the optimizers (the optimizers are configured to accept user-supplied gradients, which some algorithms assume to be of analytic accuracy), the potential exists for the `vendor` setting to trigger the use of an algorithm more optimized for the higher expense and/or lower accuracy of finite-differencing. For example, NPSOL uses gradients in its line search when in user-supplied gradient mode (since it assumes they are inexpensive), but uses a value-based line search procedure when internally finite differencing. The use of a value-based line search will often reduce total expense in serial operations. However, in parallel operations, the use of gradients in the NPSOL line search (user-supplied gradient mode) provides excellent load balancing without need to resort to speculative optimization approaches.

In summary, then, the `dakota` routine is preferred for parallel optimization, and the `vendor` routine may be preferred for serial optimization in special cases.
dakota

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- dakota

(Default) Use internal Dakota finite differences algorithm

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
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<td>ignore_bounds</td>
<td>Do not respect bounds when computing gradients or Hessians</td>
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<td>Optional (Choose One)</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
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<td>Scale step size by the parameter value</td>
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<tr>
<td>absolute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Do not scale step-size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bounds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The *dakota* routine is the default since it can execute in parallel and exploit the concurrency in finite difference evaluations (see Exploiting Parallelism in the Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]).

When the *method_source* is *dakota*, the user may also specify the type of scaling desired when determining the finite difference step size. The choices are *absolute*, *bounds*, and *relative*. For *absolute*, the step size will be applied as is. For *bounds*, it will be scaled by the range of each parameter. For *relative*, it will be scaled by the parameter value.

**ignore_bounds**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- dakota
- ignore_bounds

Do not respect bounds when computing gradients or Hessians
6.6. RESPONSES

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

When Dakota computes gradients or Hessians by finite differences and the variables in question have bounds, it by default chooses finite-differencing steps that keep the variables within their specified bounds. Older versions of Dakota generally ignored bounds when computing finite differences. To restore the older behavior, one can add keyword ignore_bounds to the response specification when method_source dakota (or just dakota) is also specified.

In forward difference or backward difference computations, honoring bounds is straightforward. To honor bounds when approximating $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$, i.e., component $i$ of the gradient of $f$, by central differences, Dakota chooses two steps $h_1$ and $h_2$ with $h_1 \neq h_2$, such that $x + h_1 e_i$ and $x + h_2 e_i$ both satisfy the bounds, and then computes

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{h_2^2 (f_1 - f_0) - h_1^2 (f_2 - f_0)}{h_1 h_2 (h_2 - h_1)},$$

with $f_0 = f(x)$, $f_1 = f(x + h_1 e_i)$, and $f_2 = f(x + h_2 e_i)$.

relative

• Keywords Area
  • responses
  • numerical_gradients
  • dakota
  • relative
  Scale step size by the parameter value

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description

Scale step size by the parameter value

absolute

• Keywords Area
  • responses
  • numerical_gradients
  • dakota
  • absolute
  Do not scale step-size
Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Do not scale step-size

bounds
  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • numerical_gradients
  • dakota
  • bounds

Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

vendor
  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • numerical_gradients
  • vendor

Use non-Dakota fd algorithm

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
See parent page for usage notes.
6.6. RESPONSES

interval_type

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- interval_type

Specify how to compute gradients and hessians

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

The interval_type setting is used to select between forward and central differences in the numerical gradient calculations. The dakota, DOT vendor, and OPT++ vendor routines have both forward and central differences available, the CONMIN and NL2SOL vendor routines support forward differences only, and the NP-SOL and NLSSOL vendor routines start with forward differences and automatically switch to central differences as the iteration progresses (the user has no control over this). The following forward difference expression

$$\nabla f(x) \approx \frac{f(x + he_i) - f(x)}{h}$$

and the following central difference expression

$$\nabla f(x) \approx \frac{f(x + he_i) - f(x - he_i)}{2h}$$

are used to estimate the $i^{th}$ component of the gradient vector.

forward

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- forward

Use forward differences

Specification

Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description

See parent page for usage notes.
central
- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- central

Use central differences

**Specification**

*Alias:* none

*Argument(s):* none

**Description**

See parent page for usage notes.

**fd_step_size**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_gradients
- fd_step_size

Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians

**Specification**

*Alias:* fd_gradient_step_size

*Argument(s):* REALLIST

**Description**

*fd_gradient_step_size* specifies the relative finite difference step size to be used in the computations. Either a single value may be entered for use with all parameters, or a list of step sizes may be entered, one for each parameter.

The latter option of a list of step sizes is only valid for use with the Dakota finite differencing routine. For Dakota with an interval scaling type of absolute, the differencing interval will be *fd_gradient_step_size*.

For Dakota with an interval scaling type of bounds, the differencing intervals are computed by multiplying *fd_gradient_step_size* with the range of the parameter. For Dakota (with an interval scaling type of relative), DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++, the differencing intervals are computed by multiplying the *fd_gradient_step_size* with the current parameter value. In this case, a minimum absolute differencing interval is needed when the current parameter value is close to zero. This prevents finite difference intervals for the parameter which are too small to distinguish differences in the response quantities being computed. Dakota,
DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ all use $0.01 \times \text{fd\_gradient\_step\_size}$ as their minimum absolute differencing interval. With a $\text{fd\_gradient\_step\_size} = 0.001$, for example, Dakota, DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ will use intervals of $0.001 \times \text{current value}$ with a minimum interval of $1.e-5$. NPSOL and NLSSOL use a different formula for their finite difference intervals: $\text{fd\_gradient\_step\_size}\times(1+|\text{current parameter value}|)$. This definition has the advantage of eliminating the need for a minimum absolute differencing interval since the interval no longer goes to zero as the current parameter value goes to zero.

### 6.6.10 no\_hessians

- **Keywords Area**
  - responses
  - no\_hessians

Hessians will not be used.

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `no\_hessians` specification means that the method does not require Dakota to manage the computation of any Hessian information. Therefore, it will neither be retrieved from the simulation nor computed by Dakota. The `no\_hessians` keyword is a complete specification for this case. Note that, in some cases, Hessian information may still be being approximated internal to an algorithm (e.g., within a quasi-Newton optimizer such as `optpp\_q\_newton`); however, Dakota has no direct involvement in this process and the responses specification need not include it.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `numerical\_hessians`
- `quasi\_hessians`
- `analytic\_hessians`
- `mixed\_hessians`

### 6.6.11 numerical\_hessians

- **Keywords Area**
  - responses
  - numerical\_hessians

Hessians are needed and will be approximated by finite differences.
**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>fd_step_size</strong></td>
<td>Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>relative</strong></td>
<td>Scale step size by the parameter value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>absolute</strong></td>
<td>Do not scale step-size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>bounds</strong></td>
<td>Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Optional (Choose One)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Group 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>forward</strong></td>
<td>Use forward differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>central</strong></td>
<td>Use central differences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

The **numerical_hessians** specification means that Hessian information is needed and will be computed with finite differences using either first-order gradient differencing (for the cases of **analytic_gradients** or for the functions identified by **id_analytic_gradients** in the case of **mixed_gradients**) or first- or second-order function value differencing (all other gradient specifications). In the former case, the following expression

\[ \nabla^2 f(x)_i \approx \frac{\nabla f(x + he_i) - \nabla f(x)}{h} \]

estimates the \( i \)th Hessian column, and in the latter case, the following expressions

\[ \nabla^2 f(x)_{i,j} \approx \frac{f(x + he_i + he_j) - f(x + he_i) - f(x + he_i + he_j) + f(x)}{h_i h_j} \]

and

\[ \nabla^2 f(x)_{i,j} \approx \frac{f(x + he_i + he_j) - f(x + he_i - he_j) - f(x - he_i + he_j) + f(x - he_i - he_j)}{4h^2} \]

provide first- and second-order estimates of the \( ij \)th Hessian term. Prior to Dakota 5.0, Dakota always used second-order estimates. In Dakota 5.0 and newer, the default is to use first-order estimates (which honor bounds on the variables and require only about a quarter as many function evaluations as do the second-order estimates), but specifying **central after numerical_hessians** causes Dakota to use the old second-order estimates, which do not honor bounds. In optimization algorithms that use Hessians, there is little reason to use second-order differences in computing Hessian approximations.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:
6.6. RESPONSES

- no_hessians
- quasi_hessians
- analytic_hessians
- mixed_hessians

fd_step_size

- Keywords Area
  - responses
  - numerical_hessians
  - fd_step_size

Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians

**Specification**

**Alias:** fd_hessian_step_size

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

**Description**

`fd_gradient_step_size` specifies the relative finite difference step size to be used in the computations. Either a single value may be entered for use with all parameters, or a list of step sizes may be entered, one for each parameter.

The latter option of a list of step sizes is only valid for use with the Dakota finite differencing routine. For Dakota with an interval scaling type of `absolute`, the differencing interval will be `fd_gradient_step_size`.

For Dakota with an interval scaling type of `bounds`, the differencing intervals are computed by multiplying `fd_gradient_step_size` with the range of the parameter. For Dakota (with an interval scaling type of `relative`), DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++, the differencing intervals are computed by multiplying the `fd_gradient_step_size` with the current parameter value. In this case, a minimum absolute differencing interval is needed when the current parameter value is close to zero. This prevents finite difference intervals for the parameter which are too small to distinguish differences in the response quantities being computed. Dakota, DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ all use `.01*fd_gradient_step_size` as their minimum absolute differencing interval. With a `fd_gradient_step_size = .001`, for example, Dakota, DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ will use intervals of `.001*current value` with a minimum interval of 1.e-5. NPSOL and NLSSOL use a different formula for their finite difference intervals: `fd_gradient_step_size*(1+|current parameter value|)`. This definition has the advantage of eliminating the need for a minimum absolute differencing interval since the interval no longer goes to zero as the current parameter value goes to zero.

**relative**

- Keywords Area
  - responses
  - numerical_hessians
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

- relative
  Scale step size by the parameter value

**Specification**

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

**Description**

Scale step size by the parameter value

**absolute**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_hessians
- absolute
  Do not scale step-size

**Specification**

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

**Description**

Do not scale step-size

**bounds**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- numerical_hessians
- bounds
  Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

**Specification**

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

**Description**

Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter
forward
  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • numerical_hessians
  • forward

Use forward differences

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
See parent page for usage notes.

central
  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • numerical_hessians
  • central

Use central differences

Specification
Alias: none
  Argument(s): none

Description
See parent page for usage notes.

6.6.12 quasi_hessians
  • Keywords Area
  • responses
  • quasi_hessians

Hessians are needed and will be approximated by secant updates (BFGS or SR1) from a series of gradient evaluations
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none
  Argument(s): none
### 6.6. RESPONSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required (Choose One)</td>
<td></td>
<td>bfgs</td>
<td>Use BFGS method to compute quasi-hessians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>srl</td>
<td>Use the Symmetric Rank 1 update method to compute quasi-Hessians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description

The `quasi_hessians` specification means that Hessian information is needed and will be approximated using secant updates (sometimes called "quasi-Newton updates", though any algorithm that approximates Newton’s method is a quasi-Newton method).

Compared to finite difference numerical Hessians, secant approximations do not expend additional function evaluations in estimating all of the second-order information for every point of interest. Rather, they accumulate approximate curvature information over time using the existing gradient evaluations.

The supported secant approximations include the Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (BFGS) update (specified with the keyword `bfgs`) and the Symmetric Rank 1 (SR1) update (specified with the keyword `srl`).

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `no_hessians`
- `numerical_hessians`
- `analytic_hessians`
- `mixed_hessians`

### bfgs

- Keywords Area
- responses
- quasi_hessians
- `bfgs`

Use BFGS method to compute quasi-hessians

### Specification

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

| Required/-| Description of | Dakota Keyword |
| Optional | Group | |
| Optional | damped | |

**Description**

Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (BFGS) update will be used to compute quasi-Hessians.

\[
B_{k+1} = B_k - \frac{B_k s_k s_k^T B_k}{s_k^T B_k s_k} + \frac{y_k y_k^T}{y_k^T s_k}
\]

where \(B_k\) is the \(k^{th}\) approximation to the Hessian, \(s_k = x_{k+1} - x_k\) is the step and \(y_k = \nabla f_{k+1} - \nabla f_k\) is the corresponding yield in the gradients.

**Notes**

- Initial scaling of \(\frac{y_k^T y_k}{y_k^T s_k}\) is used for \(B_0\) prior to the first update.

- Numerical safeguarding is used to protect against numerically small denominators within the updates.

- This safeguarding skips the update if \(|y_k^T s_k| < 10^{-6} s_k^T B_k s_k\)

- Additional safeguarding can be added using the damped option, which utilizes an alternative damped BF-GS update when the curvature condition \(y_k^T s_k > 0\) is nearly violated.

damped

- Keywords Area
- responses
- quasi_hessians
- bfgs
- damped

Numerical safeguarding for BFGS updates

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page.
6.6. RESPONSES

sr1

- Keywords Area
- responses
- quasi_hessians
- sr1

Use the Symmetric Rank 1 update method to compute quasi-Hessians

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The Symmetric Rank 1 (SR1) update (specified with the keyword `sr1`) will be used to compute quasi-Hessians.

\[
B_{k+1} = B_k + \frac{(y_k - B_k s_k)(y_k - B_k s_k)^T}{(y_k - B_k s_k)^T s_k}
\]

where \(B_k\) is the \(k\)th approximation to the Hessian, \(s_k = x_{k+1} - x_k\) is the step and \(y_k = \nabla f_{k+1} - \nabla f_k\) is the corresponding yield in the gradients.

**Notes**

- Initial scaling of \(\frac{y_k^T s_k}{s_k^T s_k} I\) is used for \(B_0\) prior to the first update.
- Numerical safeguarding is used to protect against numerically small denominators within the updates.
- This safeguarding skips the update if \(|(y_k - B_k s_k)^T s_k| < 10^{-6}||s_k||_2||y_k - B_k s_k||_2\)

6.6.13 analytic_hessians

- Keywords Area
- responses
- analytic_hessians

Hessians are needed and are available directly from the analysis driver

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The `analytic_hessians` specification means that Hessian information is available directly from the simulation. The simulation must return the Hessian data in the Dakota format (enclosed in double brackets; see Dakota File Data Formats in Users Manual [[4] "Adams et al., 2010"]) for the case of file transfer of data. The `analytic_hessians` keyword is a complete specification for this case.
See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `no_hessians`
- `numerical_hessians`
- `quasi_hessians`
- `mixed_hessians`

### 6.6.14 `mixed_hessians`

- Keywords Area
- responses
- `mixed_hessians`

Hessians are needed and will be obtained from a mix of numerical, analytic, and "quasi" sources

## Specification

**Alias:** none  
**Argument(s):** none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>id_numerical_hessians</td>
<td></td>
<td>Identify which numerical-Hessian corresponds to which response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group 1**

- **Optional (Choose One)**
  - **relative**
  - **absolute**
  - **bounds**

**Group 2**

- **Optional (Choose One)**
  - **forward**
  - **central**

- **Optional**
  - **id_quasi_hessians**

  Identify which quasi-Hessian corresponds to which response
Optional | id_analytic_hessians | Identify which analytical Hessian corresponds to which response

### Description

Hessian availability must be specified with either `no_hessians`, `numerical_hessians`, `quasi_hessians`, `analytic_hessians`, or `mixed_hessians`.

The `mixed_hessians` specification means that some Hessian information is available directly from the simulation (analytic) whereas the rest will have to be estimated by finite differences (numerical) or approximated by secant updating. As for mixed gradients, this specification allows the user to make use of as much analytic information as is available and then estimate/approximate the rest.

The `id_analytic_hessians` list specifies by number the functions which have analytic Hessians, and the `id_numerical_hessians` and `id_quasi_hessians` lists specify by number the functions which must use numerical Hessians and secant Hessian updates, respectively. Each function identifier, from 1 through the total number of functions, must appear once and only once within the union of the `id_analytic_hessians`, `id_numerical_hessians`, and `id_quasi_hessians` lists.

The `fd_hessian_step_size` and `bfgs`, `damped_bfgs`, or `sr1` secant update selections are as described previously in `responses` and pertain to those functions listed by the `id_numerical_hessians` and `id_quasi_hessians` lists.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `no_hessians`
- `numerical_hessians`
- `quasi_hessians`
- `analytic_hessians`

**id_numerical_hessians**

- Keywords Area
  - responses
  - mixed_hessians
  - `id_numerical_hessians`

  Identify which numerical-Hessian corresponds to which response

### Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- `objective_function_pointer`
Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST
### Description

The `id_analytic_hessians` list specifies by number the functions which have analytic Hessians, and the `id_numerical_hessians` and `id_quasi_hessians` lists specify by number the functions which must use numerical Hessians and secant Hessian updates, respectively. Each function identifier, from 1 through the total number of functions, must appear once and only once within the union of the `id_analytic_hessians`, `id_numerical_hessians`, and `id_quasi_hessians` lists.

### See Also

These keywords may also be of interest:

- `id_analytic_hessians`
- `id_quasi_hessians`

### fd_step_size

- **Keywords Area**
- `responses`
- `mixed_hessians`
- `id_numerical_hessians`
- `fd_step_size`

Step size used when computing gradients and Hessians.

### Specification

**Alias:** `fd_hessian_step_size`

**Argument(s):** REALLIST

### Description

`fd_gradient_step_size` specifies the relative finite difference step size to be used in the computations. Either a single value may be entered for use with all parameters, or a list of step sizes may be entered, one for each parameter.

The latter option of a list of step sizes is only valid for use with the Dakota finite differencing routine. For Dakota with an interval scaling type of `absolute`, the differencing interval will be `fd_gradient_step_size`.

For Dakota with an interval scaling type of `bounds`, the differencing intervals are computed by multiplying `fd_gradient_step_size` with the range of the parameter. For Dakota (with an interval scaling type of...
relative), DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++, the differencing intervals are computed by multiplying the \( fd_{-}gradient\_step\_size \) with the current parameter value. In this case, a minimum absolute differencing interval is needed when the current parameter value is close to zero. This prevents finite difference intervals for the parameter which are too small to distinguish differences in the response quantities being computed. Dakota, DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ all use \( .01*fd_{-}gradient\_step\_size \) as their minimum absolute differencing interval. With a \( fd_{-}gradient\_step\_size = .001 \), for example, Dakota, DOT, CONMIN, and OPT++ will use intervals of \(.001*current\_value \) with a minimum interval of 1.e-5. NPSOL and NLSSOL use a different formula for their finite difference intervals: \( fd_{-}gradient\_step\_size*(1+|current\_parameter\_value|) \). This definition has the advantage of eliminating the need for a minimum absolute differencing interval since the interval no longer goes to zero as the current parameter value goes to zero.

**relative**

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **mixed\_hessians**
- **relative**

Scale step size by the parameter value

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

**Description**

Scale step size by the parameter value

**absolute**

- **Keywords Area**
- **responses**
- **mixed\_hessians**
- **absolute**

Do not scale step-size

**Specification**

**Alias**: none

**Argument(s)**: none

**Description**

Do not scale step-size
6.6. RESPONSES

bounds
- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- bounds

Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
Scale step-size by the domain of the parameter

forward
- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- forward

Use forward differences

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

Description
See parent page for usage notes.

central
- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- central

Use central differences
CHAPTER 6. KEYWORDS AREA

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): none

Description

See parent page for usage notes.

id\_quasi\_hessians

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed\_hessians
- id\_quasi\_hessians

Identify which quasi-Hessian corresponds to which response

Topics

This keyword is related to the topics:

- objective\_function\_pointer

Specification

Alias: none

Argument(s): INTEGERLIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/-Optional Required Group 1</th>
<th>Description of Group 1</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bfgs</td>
<td></td>
<td>sr1</td>
<td>Use the Symmetric Rank 1 update method to compute quasi-Hessians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description

The id\_analytic\_hessians list specifies by number the functions which have analytic Hessians, and the id\_numerical\_hessians and id\_quasi\_hessians lists specify by number the functions which must use numerical Hessians and secant Hessian updates, respectively. Each function identifier, from 1 through the total number of functions, must appear once and only once within the union of the id\_analytic\_hessians, id\_numerical\_hessians, and id\_quasi\_hessians lists.
See Also
These keywords may also be of interest:

- `id_numerical_hessians`
- `id_analytic_hessians`

bfgs

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- `id_quasi_hessians`
- `bfgs`

Use BFGS method to compute quasi-hessians

Specification
Alias: none
Argument(s): none

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required/Optional</th>
<th>Description of Group</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword</th>
<th>Dakota Keyword Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
<td>damped</td>
<td>Numerical safeguarding for BFGS updates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno (BFGS) update will be used to compute quasi-Hessians.

\[
B_{k+1} = B_k - \frac{B_k s_k s_k^T B_k}{s_k^T B_k s_k} + \frac{y_k y_k^T}{y_k^T s_k}
\]

where \(B_k\) is the \(k^{th}\) approximation to the Hessian, \(s_k = x_{k+1} - x_k\) is the step and \(y_k = \nabla f_{k+1} - \nabla f_k\) is the corresponding yield in the gradients.

Notes
- Initial scaling of \(\frac{y_k^T y_k}{y_k^T s_k} I\) is used for \(B_0\) prior to the first update.
- Numerical safeguarding is used to protect against numerically small denominators within the updates.
- This safeguarding skips the update if \(|y_k^T s_k| < 10^{-6} s_k^T B_k s_k\)
- Additional safeguarding can be added using the `damped` option, which utilizes an alternative damped BFGS update when the curvature condition \(y_k^T s_k > 0\) is nearly violated.
damped

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- id_quasi_hessians
- bfgs
- damped

Numerical safeguarding for BFGS updates

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

See parent page.

**sr1**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- id_quasi_hessians
- sr1

Use the Symmetric Rank 1 update method to compute quasi-Hessians

**Specification**

Alias: none

**Argument(s):** none

**Description**

The Symmetric Rank 1 (SR1) update (specified with the keyword sr1) will be used to compute quasi-Hessians.

\[
B_{k+1} = B_k + \frac{(y_k - B_k s_k)(y_k - B_k s_k)^T}{(y_k - B_k s_k)^T s_k}
\]

where \(B_k\) is the \(k^{th}\) approximation to the Hessian, \(s_k = x_{k+1} - x_k\) is the step and \(y_k = \nabla f_{k+1} - \nabla f_k\) is the corresponding yield in the gradients.

**Notes**
6.6. RESPONSES

- Initial scaling of $\frac{y^T_k s_k}{y_k^T s_k} I$ is used for $B_0$ prior to the first update.
- Numerical safeguarding is used to protect against numerically small denominators within the updates.
- This safeguarding skips the update if $|{(|y_k - B_k s_k|^T s_k| < 10^{-6}||s_k|| ||y_k - B_k s_k||}$

**id_analytic_hessians**

- Keywords Area
- responses
- mixed_hessians
- id_analytic_hessians

Identify which analytical Hessian corresponds to which response

**Topics**

This keyword is related to the topics:

- **objective_function_pointer**

**Specification**

**Alias:** none

**Argument(s):** INTEGERLIST

**Description**

The **id_analytic_hessians** list specifies by number the functions which have analytic Hessians, and the **id_numerical_hessians** and **id_quasi_hessians** lists specify by number the functions which must use numerical Hessians and secant Hessian updates, respectively. Each function identifier, from 1 through the total number of functions, must appear once and only once within the union of the **id_analytic_hessians**, **id_numerical_hessians**, and **id_quasi_hessians** lists.

**See Also**

These keywords may also be of interest:

- **id_numerical_hessians**
- **id_quasi_hessians**
Bibliography


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