

# **Towards efficient randomized limited memory preconditioners for variational data assimilation**

**Alexandre Scotto Di Perrotolo**

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- 1 Context and motivations
- 2 Randomized spectral limited memory preconditioners
- 3 Numerical illustrations on a 4D-Var toy problem
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We consider the problem of fitting  $n$  state variables of a dynamical system to  $m \ll n$  noisy observations, given a noisy prior state estimate, which can be formalized as

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{x}, t)\|_{R^{-1}}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_{B^{-1}}^2,$$

where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the prediction operator,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  the a priori state error covariance matrix and  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  the observation error covariance matrix.

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Given a current approximate solution  $x_j$  and approximating  $d_j = y - \mathcal{H}(x_j, t) \approx y - H_j x_j$ , the solution using the Gauss-Newton method (Nocedal et al., 2006) computes  $x_{j+1} = x_j + s_j$  with the  $j$ -th descent direction  $s_j$  satisfying

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## Solving the linearized subproblem

The descent directions  $s_j$  are computed using an iterative method with  $B$  as a right preconditioner. If  $s_j = B\bar{s}_j$ , then  $\bar{s}_j$  is such that

$$\bar{A}_j \bar{s}_j = b_j, \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} \bar{A}_j = I_n + H_j^\top R^{-1} H_j B & (\text{new system matrix}), \\ B \bar{A}_j = \bar{A}_j^\top B & (B\text{-symmetry}). \end{cases}$$

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- Step 1: randomized subspace iteration (*Halko et al., 2011*)

Construct search space  $V_q = (\bar{P}\bar{A})^q \Omega$  with random matrix  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$  and  $q \geq 1$ .

- Step 2: Rayleigh-Ritz method in the B inner product

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- ▷ Our approach: Construct  $V_q$  such that  $V_q^T V_q = I_p$   
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# Framework of the theoretical analysis

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$$\|\pi_{B\bar{P}^{-1}}(Z) (\bar{P}\bar{A})_k - (\bar{P}\bar{A})_k\|_2 \quad \text{is ideally equal to 0.}$$

Theorem (Y.D., S.G., A. Scotto Di Perrotolo, X.V., 2022)

Let  $Z = (\bar{P}\bar{A})^q \Omega$  with  $q \geq 1$  and  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_n)$ , and let us denote by  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$  the eigenvalues of  $\bar{P}\bar{A}$ . Then for all  $1 \leq k \leq p - 2$  one has

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# Average-case analysis of low rank approximation error

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Additional results:

- A similar result holds in weighted Frobenius norm.
- Our analysis integrates the case of non-standard Gaussian matrices.

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Additional results:

- A similar result holds in weighted Frobenius norm.
- Our analysis integrates the case of non-standard Gaussian matrices. In particular, if we denote by  $\mathbf{Cov}(\Omega)$  the covariance matrix of  $\Omega$  then one has

$$\mathbf{Cov}(\Omega) = B\bar{P}^{-1} \implies c_2 = 0.$$

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# The 4D-Var data assimilation test problem

We propose an application of the proposed method to a 4D-Var data assimilation problem.

The Lorenz 95 model: State vector  $x = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  whose components satisfy

$$\frac{dX_l}{dt} = -X_{l-2}X_{l-1} + X_{l-1}X_{l+1} - X_l + F, \quad 1 \leq l \leq n$$

with periodic boundary conditions. We set  $n = 500$  state variables and  $N = 24$  time steps implying operators of size up to  $12500 \times 12500$ .

Three scenarios: Sensitivity to the number of observations

- LowObs: 120 observations are made ( $\approx 1\%$  of observations),
- MedObs: 1260 observations are made ( $\approx 10\%$  of observations),
- HighObs: 2520 observations are made ( $\approx 20\%$  of observations).

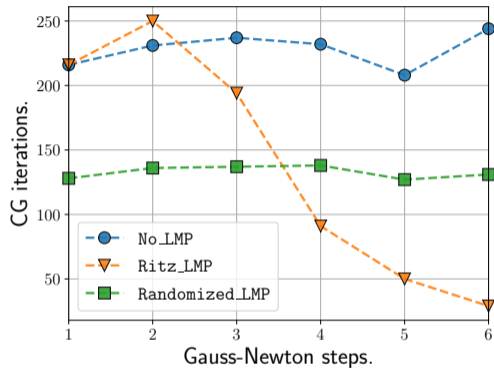
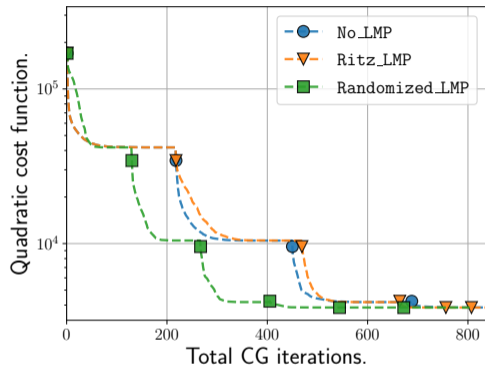
## General setting:

- We perform 6 Gauss-Newton steps.
- Tolerance for the CG convergence is set to  $\varepsilon = 10^{-4}$  with a maximum of 250 iterations.
- Randomized algorithms compute  $k = 30$  eigenpairs with  $p = 50$  samples and  $q = 1$ .

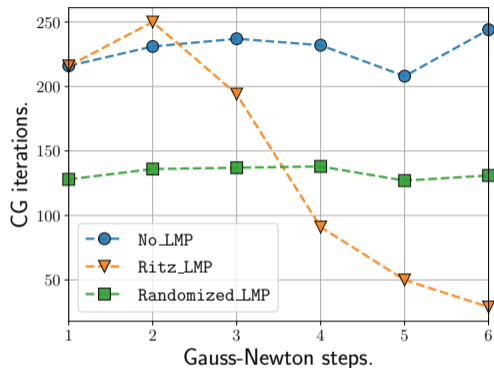
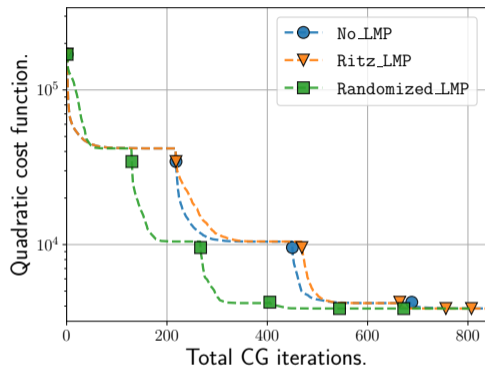
## Practical preconditioning strategies:

- No\_LMP: the preconditioner is not updated.
- Ritz\_LMP: the preconditioner is updated using Ritz LMP (*Gratton et al. 2011*).
- Randomized\_LMP: the randomized LMP for the  $B$ -PCG is constructed at each GN step.

# Results for HighObs



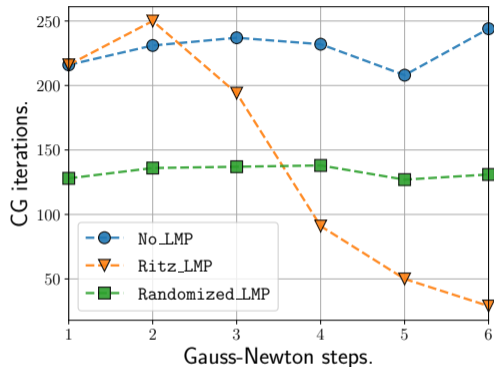
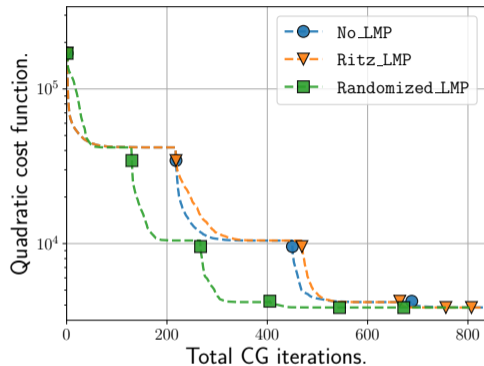
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- The Ritz LMP is more efficient in the last GN steps due to the updates.

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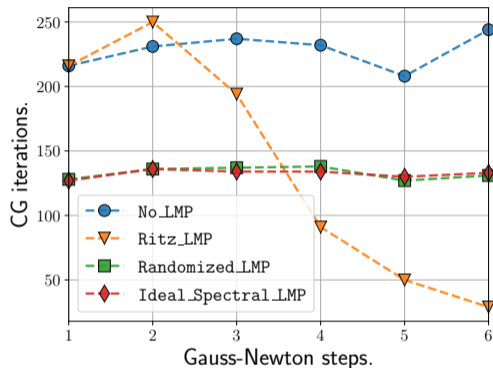
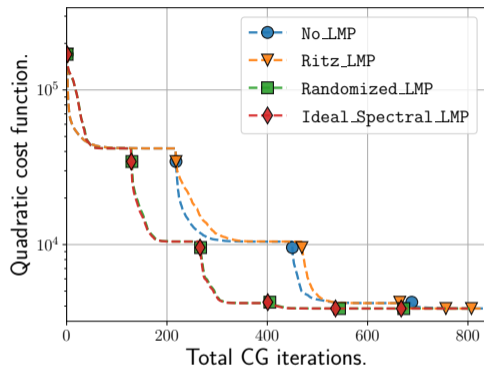


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- The Ritz LMP is more efficient in the last GN steps due to the updates.



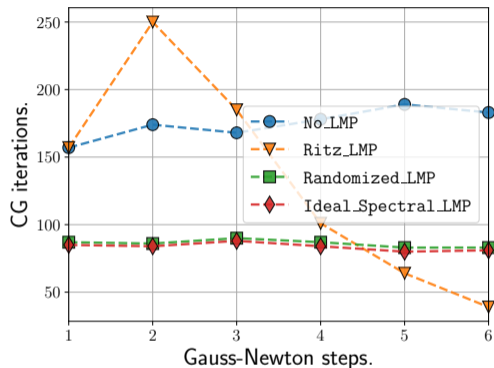
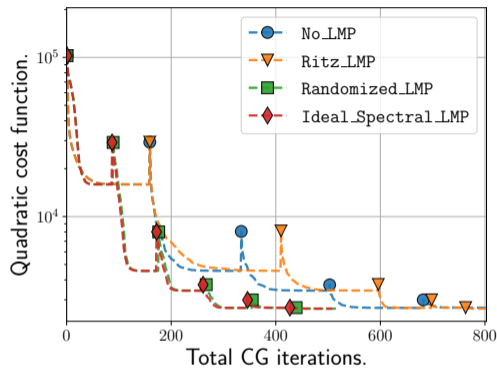
# Results for HighObs



## Observations:

- The gain obtained for Randomized\_LMP seems fairly constant,
- The Ritz LMP is more efficient in the last GN steps due to the updates.

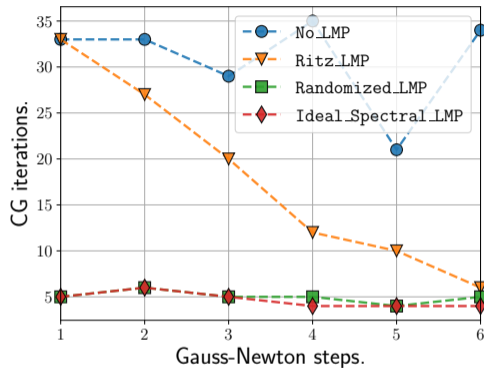
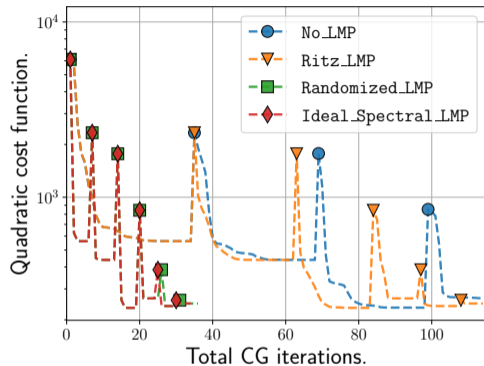
# Results for MediumObs



## Observations:

- The gain obtained for Randomized\_LMP seems fairly constant,
- The Ritz LMP is more efficient in the last GN steps due to the updates.

# Results for LowObs



## Observations:

- The gain obtained for Randomized\_LMP seems fairly constant,
- The Ritz LMP is more efficient in the last GN steps due to the updates.

# Overview of the computational costs for MediumObs

Accounting for the parallel nature of randomized methods, one has

	Ritz_LMP	Randomized_LMP
PCG iterations (total)	796	<b>524</b>
Storage (# vectors)	30 to 150	<b>50</b>
Additional construction cost	Ritz_LMP	Randomized_LMP
Applications of $R^{-1}, H_j, H_j^T$	<b>0</b>	6
Applications of $B$	<b>0</b>	12

- 1 Context and motivations
- 2 Randomized spectral limited memory preconditioners
- 3 Numerical illustrations on a 4D-Var toy problem
- 4 Conclusions and perspectives**

## Conclusions:

- We have proposed algorithms that generalize prior algorithms while improving the computational cost,
- We have derived an average-case analysis that is either new or improves state-of-the-art results,
- The numerical experiments conducted on a toy problem illustrated the behavior of the resulting preconditioners.

## Perspectives:

- Study adaptive preconditioning strategies to combine randomized and Ritz approximations.
- Investigate the performance in larger scale applications (OOPS code from ECMWF).

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# Pseudocode of the algorithm

**Input:**  $B$ -symmetric matrices  $\bar{A}, \bar{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , integers  $p, q \geq 1$  and  $k \leq p$

% STEP 1

Draw a random matrix  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ , and set  $V = \Omega$

Perform the QR factorization of  $\bar{A}V = QR$  and set  $X = Q$

**for**  $j = 1, \dots, q - 1$  **do**

    Compute  $V = \bar{P}X$

    Perform the QR factorization of  $\bar{A}V = QR$  and set  $X = Q$

**end**

% STEP 2

Form  $T = R^{-T}V^T B X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  and  $\Phi = X^T B \bar{P} X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ ,

Solve the generalized Hermitian eigenvalue problem  $TW = \Phi W \Theta$

Truncate  $W$  and  $\Theta$  to keep  $k$  approximate eigenpairs.

**Output:** Matrices  $\tilde{V} = VW \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  and  $\tilde{\Lambda} = \Theta^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$  such that  $\bar{P}\bar{A}\tilde{V} \approx \tilde{V}\tilde{\Lambda}$ .



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